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COUNTY OF LINCOLN — PARTS OF LINDSEY



ANNUAL REPORT

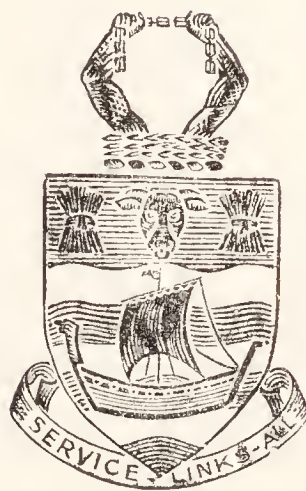
OF THE

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1954

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W. S. H. CAMPBELL, O.B.E., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
County Medical Officer of Health



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Ambulance service	29
Care of mothers and young children	21
Census 1951,	6
District medical officers of health	5
Domestic help service... ..	33
Domiciliary midwifery	25
Health visiting	26
Home nursing	26
Inspection and supervision of food	17
Mental health service	33
Notifiable Diseases	37
Nurseries & Child Minders	44
Nursing Homes	44
Prevention of illness, care and after-care	31
Sanitary circumstances of the area	12
Staff	4
Statistics—vital	7
Vaccination and immunisation	27
Welfare of Handicapped Persons	40

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

County Medical Officer of Health

WILFRID S. H. CAMPBELL, O.B.E., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer of Health

H. HARTLEY DAVIES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H.

Assistant County Medical Officers

JOHN C. MACARTNEY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
WILLIAM J. KERRIGAN,
M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., L.M., D.P.H.
RALPH J. R. MECREDY,
B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
STANLEY A. O'HAGAN, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
SIDNEY CHILDS, M.A., M.R.F.P. & S.G., M.B., Ch.B.
D.P.H., D.P.A., D.T.M. & H.
CECIL A. McCLEARY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
ARTHUR J. BEVERIDGE,
C.B., O.B.E., M.C., M.B., B.Ch. B.A.O., L.M., M.Sc., D.P.H.

DOROTHY W. O'HAGAN, M.B., B.S.
DORIS S. WILLIAMS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
CHRISTINE J. T. JAMIESON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
(Resigned 10/8/54)
ISABELLA M. HARKNESS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
MARGARET J. S. CATON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
MARY HELMER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.B., B.S.,
D.R.C.O.G.
KRYSTYNA M. KAWA,
M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G. (Apptd. 3/8/54).

Chief County Dental Officer

JOHN D. SYKES, L.D.S.

Assistant County Dental Officers

HENRY K. OVEY, L.D.S., R.C.S.,
GEORGE H. TAPPER, L.D.S., R.C.S.
FRANCIS G. HOLLIER, L.D.S., R.C.S.
(Apptd. 3/5/54)
FRANK E. PADGETT, L.D.S., R.C.S.
ARTHUR N. STANNARD, L.D.S. (Part-time)
DONALD R. MOULTON, (Part-time)

County Health Inspector

B. J. DREW, M.S.I.A. (Resigned 31/5/54)
G. COLLINSON, M.S.I.A. (Apptd. 27/7/54)

Assistant County Health Inspectors

R. E. LAW, M.S.I.A. (Resigned 30/6/54). A. H. RANDS, M.S.I.A.
J. CABOURNE, M.S.I.A. (Apptd. 6/12/54).

Superintendent Nursing Officer

MISS M. WITTING, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitors Cert. of R.S.I.

Assistant Superintendent Nursing Officers

Miss V. MONAGHAN, S.R.N., S.C.M.,
Miss H. PLACE, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitors Cert. of R.S.I.

Domestic Help Organiser

Mrs. L. ELLERAY

Chief Clerk

CHARLES H. NICHOLSON

Public Analyst

WILLIAM W. TAYLOR, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

Authorised Officers under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts and for the purposes of Section 15 (1) of the
Mental Deficiency Act, 1913

G. G. BECK, 48 Oswald Road, Scunthorpe.
A. JAMES, 48 Oswald Road, Scunthorpe.
F. SLINGSBY, 31 Market Street, Cleethorpes.
C. L. VICKERS, 5 Silver Street, Gainsborough.
A. V. SMITH, County Offices, Lincoln.
C. L. WINK, 14 Upgate, Louth.
J. N. RADFORD, Offord House, Spilsby.
B. G. WILLIAMS, Cecil Avenue, Skegness.

DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH

District	Name	Qualifications	Address
URBAN			
Alford	C. S. E. Wright	B.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	Council Offices, Alford
Barton-upon-Humber	F. P. H. Birtwhistle	M.D., M.B., Ch.B.	Priestgate, Barton-upon-Humber
Brigg	F. J. O. King	B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.	53 Bridge Street, Brigg
Cleethorpes Borough ...	C. A. McCleary	M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.	Health Dept., Council Offices, Cleethorpes
Gainsborough	J. C. Macartney	M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Health Dept., Council Offices, Lord Street, Gainsborough
Horncastle	S. A. O'Hagan	M.B., B.S., D.P.H.	Council Offices, Horncastle
Louth Borough	W. J. Kerrigan	M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.	Health Dept., Town Hall, Louth
Mablethorpe and Sutton	W. J. Kerrigan	M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.	Council Offices, Mablethorpe
Market Rasen	R. J. R. Mecredy	B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.	Council Offices, Market Rasen
Scunthorpe Borough	S. Childs	M.A., M.R.F.P., & S.G., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.P.A., D.T.M., & H.	Health Dept., High Street, East, Scunthorpe
Skegness	A. D. F. Menzies	M.B., Ch.B.	Health Dept., Town Hall, Skegness
Woodhall Spa	S. A. O'Hagan	M.B., B.S., D.P.H.	Council Offices, Horncastle
RURAL			
Caistor	R. J. R. Mecredy	B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.	Council Offices, Caistor
Gainsborough	J. C. Macartney	M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Council Offices, Lord Street, Gainsborough
Glanford Brigg	F. J. O. King	B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.	53 Bridge Street, Brigg
Grimsby	C. A. McCleary	M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.	Health Dept., Council Offices, Deansgate, Grimsby
Horncastle	S. A. O'Hagan	M.B., B.S., D.P.H.	Council Offices, Horncastle
Isle of Axholme	J. C. Macartney	M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Council Offices, Epworth, Doncaster
Louth	W. J. Kerrigan	M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.	Council Offices, Cannon Street, Louth
Spilsby	C. S. E. Wright	B.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	Council Offices, Spilsby
Welton	W. Sharrard	M.B., Ch. B.	"Elmhurst," The Avenue, Lincoln

THE CENSUS, 1951

The Registrar General's recent report of his Analysis of the 1951 Census figures for the County provides statistics of much local interest, relating chiefly to populations, private households, rooms, dwellings and to certain amenities available to householders.

Population.

The report shows that in the twenty-year intercensal period the population of the administrative County of Lindsey has increased at an average rate of over 2,300 a year and is now 309,592. This represents an increase of 17.5 % on the figure for 1931. The increase is more marked in urban areas (22 %) than in the rural districts (13.3 %).

In the urban districts the largest increase is recorded for the Borough of Scunthorpe 67.7 % followed by Skegness with 37.5 % and Mablethorpe and Sutton with 37.3 %. Of the rural districts Welton shows the largest increase—39.6 %, next being Gainsborough with 23.2 %.

Density of Population

The Borough of Cleethorpes is the most thickly populated district having a density of 13 persons to the acre compared with 7.3 for the urban district of Gainsborough, 6.9 for the Borough of Scunthorpe, and 0.3 for the County as a whole.

Age and Sex Distribution

The percentage of population in the various age groups differs little from the corresponding figures for England and Wales. In the County the proportion of children and old people is slightly higher.

Persons in the 65 and over age group now represent 11.4 % of the total population compared with 8.6 % in 1931.

Only 7.1 % of the population of Scunthorpe is in this age group. The percentage at Woodhall Spa on the other hand is 20.7.

There are relatively fewer females in the population of Lindsey than in the Country generally. In the County the ratio is 995 females to every 1,000 males. Males outnumber females up to the 45 year age group, thereafter the reverse is the case owing to the greater longevity of women. At ages 65 and over women outnumber men, the ratio being 1,228 females to 1,000 males. In the residential areas of Skegness, Mablethorpe and Woodhall Spa, where the number of old and retired people is comparatively high, the ratio is just over 1,200 females per 1,000 males.

Marital Conditions

Of those living in the County aged 15 and over, 25.2 % are single, 65.9 % married, 8.7 % widowed and 0.5 % divorced.

The 1951 figures also show that both men and women are marrying earlier in life than was the case 20 years ago. In the 20-24 year age group for example 267 men per 1,000 were married compared with 162 in 1931 and 538 women compared with 321. The number of divorced persons living in the County per 1,000 total population is 3.9 which is considerably lower than that for the Country generally. It is, however, about six times what it was in 1931.

Birth Place and Nationality

The proportion of the population born outside the United Kingdom and the Irish Republic was less than that for the Country as a whole. Seventy per cent of the inhabitants of the County were born in the County. At the time of the enumeration Scots resident in the County numbered 3,690, Irish 2,571 and Welsh 2,295. There were 2,582 aliens.

Dwellings, Rooms and Private Householders

Dwellings occupied by private householders numbered 87,846. In addition there were 3,743 dwellings furnished and unfurnished which were unoccupied. The total 91,589 represents an increase of 31.4 % since 1931.

Since the last census houses with five rooms and under have increased by 52.2 % while those with six and over have decreased by 14.2 %. More persons are now living alone. Households of one person numbered 8,474, nearly double the 1931 figure. The average number of persons per household is 3.2. The density of occupation of private dwellings averages 0.69 persons per room compared with 0.73 previously. It is highest at Scunthorpe 0.76, Brigg 0.72 and Gainsborough 0.7.

The number of private families living at densities of more than two persons per room has fallen by 40 %. The percentages of persons living at more than two per room is 1.7 for the County. It is highest at Brigg where it is more than double the average for the County.

Household Arrangements

The 1951 census is the first to provide information as to the availability of piped water, cooking stoves, kitchen sinks, water closets and fixed baths. It shows that 44 % of all households had the exclusive use of all five of these arrangements, another 10 % had use of all except a fixed bath. There are of course wide variations in the availability of these amenities in different parts of the County. In the borough and urban districts 62 % of households had all 5 arrangements as against 26 % in rural areas. The following table shows the position in urban and rural areas and the County as a whole.

	Boroughs and Urban Districts			Rural Districts			Administrative County		
	Households (44,654)			Households (45,309)			Households (89,963)		
	With exclusive use of	Shared	Without	With exclusive use of	Shared	Without	With exclusive use of	Shared	Without
Piped water ...	36,420	4,310	3,914	24,313	1,942	19,054	60,743	6,252	22,968
Cooking stove ...	41,569	2,612	473	43,726	518	1,065	85,298	3,130	1,538
Kitchen sink ...	37,708	2,676	4,270	29,050	524	15,735	66,758	3,200	20,005
Water closet ...	39,282	3,558	1,814	14,967	579	29,763	54,248	4,137	31,577
Fixed bath ...	28,769	2,327	13,558	17,472	494	27,343	46,241	2,821	40,901

It will be noted from the above figures that over a third of rural households are still without a piped water supply or kitchen sink and that between a half and threequarters of them are without a water closet or fixed bath.

Over 8 % of urban households are without a piped water supply. Nearly 10 % are without a kitchen sink and 13,558 or over 33 % are without a fixed bath.

VITAL STATISTICS, 1954

Registrar General's estimated mid-year population						...	...	...	...	...	313,500
Births	Live 5,181.	Still 131	Total 5,312			Birth Rate per 1,000 population				16.53		
						Stillbirths rate per 1,000 total births				25		
	Illegitimate births	...	...	...	...	283	Rate per 1,000 total births				53
Deaths	from all causes	...	...	...	3,489	Death rate per 1,000 population				11.13	
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age					126	Rate per 1,000 births				24.32
Maternal deaths		...	...	...	...	6	Rate per 1,000 births				1.13

Deaths from Tuberculosis

Pulmonary ...	...	...	35	Rate per 1,000 population 0.11
Other forms ...	...	...	8	Rate per 1,000 population 0.026
Deaths from Cancer ...	...	...	601	Rate per 1,000 population 1.92

The births and deaths rates for the Administrative County continue to compare favourably with those of England and Wales. After correction for the difference in the age and sex distribution of the population the comparative figures are as follows:—

	Birth rate	Death rate
England and Wales ...	15.2	11.3
Administrative County...	17.4	10.7

Live Births 1954

Districts	Total Births	Legitimate		Illegitimate	
		male	female	male	female
Urban					
Alford	35	20	12	3	—
Barton-upon-Humber ...	104	43	55	1	5
Brigg	72	28	40	2	2
Cleethorpes Borough ...	484	244	219	7	14
Gainsborough	297	136	132	12	17
Horncastle	58	36	19	2	1
Louth Borough	175	76	92	4	3
Mablethorpe and Sutton	75	31	36	6	2
Market Rasen	31	16	15	—	—
Scunthorpe Borough ...	1,042	511	483	24	24
Skegness	207	89	91	16	11
Woodhall Spa	29	14	14	—	1
Aggregate Urban Districts	2,609	1,244	1,208	77	80
Rural					
Caistor	245	115	119	6	5
Gainsborough	252	123	116	7	6
Glanford Brigg	493	235	236	13	9
Grimsby	202	102	91	6	3
Horncastle	209	102	95	4	8
Isle of Axholme	248	126	109	7	6
Louth	312	156	144	3	9
Spilsby	361	165	179	12	5
Welton	250	133	108	6	3
Aggregate Rural Districts	2,572	1,257	1,197	64	54
Whole County	5,181	2,501	2,405	141	134

Still-births, 1954

Districts	Total	Legitimate		Illegitimate	
		male	female	male	female
Urban					
Alford	1	—	1	—	—
Barton-upon-Humber ...	1	1	—	—	—
Brigg	—	—	—	—	—
Cleethorpes Borough ...	14	7	6	—	1
Gainsborough	9	5	4	—	—
Horncastle	1	—	1	—	—
Louth Borough	2	—	2	—	—
Mablethorpe and Sutton	3	3	—	—	—
Market Rasen	—	—	—	—	—
Scunthorpe Borough ...	27	12	13	1	1
Skegness	4	2	2	—	—
Woodhall Spa	—	—	—	—	—
Aggregate Urban Districts	62	30	29	1	2
Rural					
Caistor	8	3	4	—	1
Gainsborough	8	3	4	—	1
Glanford Brigg	17	8	6	—	3
Grimsby	4	2	2	—	—
Horncastle	4	3	1	—	—
Isle of Axholme	6	3	3	—	—
Louth	5	3	2	—	—
Spilsby	5	1	4	—	—
Welton	12	5	7	—	—
Aggregate Rural Districts ...	69	31	33	—	5
Whole County	131	61	62	1	7

Causes of all deaths in the County at different ages, 1954

Causes of death	0—	1—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75 and over	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—	—	1	14	11	8	1	35
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	1	—	1	4	1	1	—	8
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	1	6
4. Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
5. Whooping cough	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
6. Meningococcal infections	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
8. Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1	—	2	4	1	2	1	11
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	—	—	—	—	2	22	26	20	70
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	—	—	—	—	6	51	22	8	87
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	—	—	—	4	29	10	11	54
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—	—	—	3	17	9	9	38
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	—	1	6	2	20	104	111	108	352
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	3	—	1	1	5	3	3	16
16. Diabetes	—	—	—	1	2	9	14	15	41
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	—	—	—	1	6	81	145	235	468
18. Coronary disease, angina	—	—	—	—	14	121	165	166	466
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	15	27	37	79
20. Other heart disease	—	—	—	2	13	49	110	356	530
21. Other circulatory disease	—	—	—	—	4	24	40	97	165
22. Influenza	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	7	14
23. Pneumonia	28	4	1	—	5	15	27	46	126
24. Bronchitis	3	1	1	—	1	30	46	55	137
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	—	1	—	1	2	9	8	9	30
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—	—	—	1	6	7	8	22
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	2	—	—	—	1	4	2	4	13
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—	—	1	6	8	10	10	35
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—	—	1	2	11	31	45
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	6
31. Congenital malformations	21	2	—	4	4	1	—	1	33
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	64	8	9	1	18	63	60	199	422
33. Motor vehicle accidents	—	4	5	5	13	4	2	3	36
34. All other accidents	5	1	3	12	22	21	11	31	106
35. Suicide	—	—	—	2	6	15	5	4	32
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	126	29	25	39	183	722	889	1,476	3,489

Causes of death in each District

District	Registrar General's estimated population	Live births	Deaths	Tuberculosis, respiratory	Tuberculosis, other	Syphilitic disease	Diphtheria	Whooping cough	Meningococcal infections	Acute poliomyelitis	Measles	Other infective and parasitic diseases	Malignant neoplasm stomach	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	Malignant neoplasm, breast	Malignant neoplasm uterus	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	Diabetes
Urban																			
Alford	2150	35	41	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	5	—	—
Barton-upon- Humber	6370	104	97	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	4	—	7	—	—
Brigg	4410	72	69	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	7	1	—
Cleethorpes Borough	30310	484	382	5	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	13	14	8	4	36	—	3
Gainsborough ...	17430	297	223	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	6	9	2	4	19	3	7
Horncastle	3870	58	52	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	7	—	—
Louth Borough ...	11350	175	125	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	5	1	2	13	—	1
Mablethorpe and Sutton	5280	75	64	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	5	—	—
Market Rasen ...	2140	31	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	4	—	—
Scunthorpe Borough	56520	1042	503	9	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	13	15	9	6	49	6	7
Skegness	12640	207	155	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	5	1	24	1	3
Woodhall Spa ...	2130	29	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—
Total ...	154600	2609	1785	22	4	2	—	3	1	1	—	4	38	56	33	19	179	11	21
Rural																			
Caistor	14170	254	158	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	4	2	—	9	1	1
Gainsborough ...	13340	252	117	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	1	4	11	—	2
Glanford Brigg ...	32970	493	328	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	1	6	2	35	1	4
Grimsby	13190	202	141	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	1	1	3	18	—	2
Horncastle	12780	209	137	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	3	2	20	1	4
Isle of Axholme ...	14190	248	137	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	11	1	2
Louth	18480	312	215	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	2	2	19	1	1
Spilsby	23560	361	313	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	9	2	4	32	—	2
Welton	16220	250	158	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	3	1	18	—	2
Total ...	158900	2572	1704	13	4	4	1	—	—	—	—	7	32	31	21	19	173	5	20
Total for Admini- strative County	313500	5181	3489	35	8	6	1	3	1	1	—	11	70	87	54	38	352	16	41

in the County at all ages 1954

Vascular lesions of nervous system	Coronary disease, angina	Hypertension with heart disease	Other heart disease	Other circulatory disease	Influenza	Pneumonia	Bronchitis	Other diseases of respiratory system	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	Nephritis and nephrosis	Hyperplasia of prostate	Pregnancy, childbirth abortion	Congenital malformations	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	Motor vehicle accidents	All other accidents	Suicide	Homicide and operations of war	District
9	6	2	4	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	2	2	—	Urban
11	9	1	25	2	—	7	2	1	2	—	4	2	2	2	7	—	3	2	—	Alford
6	14	3	7	3	3	2	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	14	—	—	—	—	Barton -upon- Humber
44	47	12	50	11	1	22	20	5	1	1	4	3	1	5	51	3	12	3	—	Brigg
20	45	7	29	10	1	3	12	5	2	2	2	2	—	1	25	—	2	2	—	Cleethorpes Borough
9	9	1	5	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	9	—	1	—	—	Gainsborough
14	13	—	13	11	1	2	4	2	1	1	1	1	—	3	23	1	4	1	—	Horncastle
12	13	—	11	3	1	—	3	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	7	1	—	—	—	Louth Borough
6	3	1	5	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	Mablethorpe and Sutton
70	75	8	65	29	1	16	17	3	2	2	6	2	1	5	51	9	15	7	—	Market Rasen
18	13	7	21	5	2	7	6	—	2	—	—	3	—	1	23	1	3	2	—	Scunthorpe Borough
9	2	2	8	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	3	—	3	2	—	Skegness
																				Woodhall Spa
228	249	44	243	79	10	66	71	16	13	7	22	14	4	20	223	16	45	21	—	Total
																				Rural
17	15	5	24	7	—	4	3	1	1	—	1	—	—	2	39	2	10	3	—	Caistor
16	11	2	21	6	—	4	7	—	1	1	—	8	—	—	6	3	4	1	—	Gainsborough
49	36	12	56	21	2	9	12	2	4	2	5	7	—	7	26	1	15	1	—	Glanford Brigg
17	20	1	18	6	—	6	9	1	—	2	—	1	—	1	13	3	8	1	—	Grimsby
20	17	2	14	7	1	4	9	1	—	—	1	2	—	1	17	1	1	—	—	Horncastle
27	22	—	21	7	—	9	12	2	—	—	—	2	1	2	10	3	2	—	—	Isle of Axholme
34	34	3	31	11	1	8	5	1	1	1	2	6	—	—	28	—	10	1	—	Louth
42	49	9	74	14	—	10	4	5	1	—	2	5	1	—	32	4	2	2	—	Spilsby
18	13	1	29	6	—	6	5	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	28	3	9	2	—	Welton
240	217	35	288	85	4	60	66	14	9	6	13	31	2	13	199	20	61	11	—	Total
468	466	79	531	164	14	126	137	30	22	13	35	45	6	33	422	36	106	32	—	Total for Administrative County

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE COUNTY

Housing

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954, the operative date for which was 30th August, was the main feature in connection with housing. The immediate function of the Act is to assess the magnitude of the slum clearance programme and Local Authorities have to submit a housing return to the Minister within one year of the operative date of the Act, showing the number of unfit houses in the district requiring demolition, the amount of progress which is expected to be made within the first five years and the number of houses which, although requiring demolition, will be retained for a longer period than five years, owing to the magnitude of the Authority's problem. Provision is made in the Act for houses in the latter category to be purchased and "patched" by the Local Authority if necessary. The broad principle that the worst should be dealt with first and property remaining after five years to be subject to "patching" is emphasised.

The Act provides a revised standard of fitness for houses, previous standards so often being a subject of legal contention.

Provision is also made for limited increases in rent subject to the dwelling house being in a state of good repair.

There appeared to be a growing interest in connection with the improvement of property by means of financial assistance under the Housing Act, 1949. In this connection 63 applications for grants were dealt with in the Boroughs and Urban Districts and in 49 cases grants were made or offered for the improvement of dwellings. In the Rural Districts 439 applications were considered and grants made or offered in respect of 288 dwellings. This method of improving property is gradually forming an important contribution in connection with bringing houses up to a modern standard and plays a vital part insofar as many rural owner occupiers are concerned.

Numerous reports on unsatisfactory housing conditions were dealt with by the County Health Inspector following reports of the Health Visitors on child welfare and maternity duties. In several instances improvements in the housing conditions by repair, or re-housing by the Local Authority, were effected.

Water Supplies

In the field of water supplies, 13 schemes were submitted for consideration by the Water Supplies and Sewerage Sub-Committee. These are in addition to the schemes outlined in the table which appears at the end of this section.

Existing public supplies continue to be satisfactory in quality with one temporary exception (the Borough of Louth).

In the case of the Borough of Louth, water yielded from the artesian bore proved highly satisfactory in accordance with bacteriological standards. Samples taken at various points of consumption, however, showed evidence of pollution. Investigations covering the whole of the method of storage and distribution were carried out and suspicion was placed on the unlined storage tank at the head works and the dilapidated state of the roof to the service reservoir, this being of galvanised iron supported by timber. The latter has now been stripped and a scheme is being prepared for re-roofing. The works and the adjoining storage reservoir will shortly be replaced by a supply of water from the Regional scheme which is being developed at Raithby to which reference is made later. The question of defective distribution mains in certain parts may also have attributed to the pollution. As a safeguard prior to the source being replaced, the chlorine dosage to the water has been substantially increased. This occurrence clearly illustrates the necessity for all Authorities to take regular samples of water at points of consumption (which was done in this case), as although water may be chlorinated as a routine procedure at the source, the dosage is not always sufficient to deal with additional or intermittent pollution which may arise.

The North Lindsey Water Board and the Grimsby, Cleethorpes and District Water Board have continued to meet the increasing demand for water in the northern sector of the County. The former Authority have applied for Ministry consent to sink three additional bore holes and enlarge an existing bore at Barrow-upon-Humber, which has been the subject of a Ministry Inquiry.

In the Gainsborough U.D., the breakdown of a pump during the month of July restricted supplies of water. Interconnections of the urban district water mains with those of adjoining rural areas did much to maintain a restricted supply for domestic purposes, which demonstrated the value of planned interconnections of water mains, particularly trunk mains, where practicable.

In the Isle of Axholme Rural District, a breakdown in the supply of water from the Doncaster and Tickhill Water Board occurred during August. The areas affected were generally in the northern sector of the rural district and included Keadby.

Steady and commendable progress has been made on Regional Schemes, the work having been approved in previous years.

In the Borough of Louth, the development of the source at Raithby has continued by the construction of a 250,000 gallon storage tank at the head works. This source will provide the water for the main Regional schemes covering the southern sector of the Louth R.D. and the Horncastle R.D.

In addition the Louth R.D. have completed and brought into use two 500,000 gallon service reservoirs at Kenwick and Wyham.

In the Horncastle R.D. extensions of main have been laid in the Sotby-Hatton-Minting areas.

Three bore holes were sunk at Driby in connection, with the Regional scheme of the Spilsby R.D.C. Test pumping revealed the yield to be 30,000 gallons per hour from each bore which is very satisfactory. Approximately 50,000 yards of 3-4 inch water main was laid during the year, which has improved supplies in the coastal and Fen areas. Villages now enjoying the improved supplies include—Addlethorpe, Chapel St. Leonards, Ingoldmells, Sloothby, Anderby, Huttoft, Midville, New Leake, Stickney and East Kirkby.

The water from both Raithby and Driby sources, which are being developed for the aforementioned Regional schemes, has been found to contain excessive quantities of iron and it will be necessary to instal iron removal plant in order to render the water satisfactory for domestic purposes. This aspect will add appreciably to the cost.

The Grimsby, Cleethorpes and District Water Board have sunk a new bore at Ravendale in the Grimsby R.D. to replace an unsatisfactory supply from a privately owned bore.

During the year the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Sub-Committee considered a scheme submitted by the Woodhall Spa U.D.C., mainly for relaying water mains within their district at an estimated cost of £12,688. The Committee were unable to recommend that the area be classed as a rural locality for the purposes of grant aid under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, and were also unable to recommend that the scheme be aided under Section 307 (i) of the Public Health Act, 1936.

In accordance with the North East Lincolnshire Area (Conservation of Water) Order, 1948, the Minister, in 1951, granted consent to two industrial organisations to abstract water by bores from the chalk strata, subject to a prescribed amount being returned to the chalk.

This matter has been kept under review in order that samples of the water returned to the chalk could be taken, and also that any practices considered likely to affect the quality of the water may be brought to the notice of the organisation concerned.

In the case of one factory, the return of water to the chalk strata following usage for cooling purposes was found to be impracticable, as it created a continuous flow cycle as water abstracted was of high temperature. Hence this method was not employed and cooling apparatus substituted.

In the case of the second factory, arrangements are proceeding for a limited amount of cooling water to be returned to the chalk strata at a future date.

The following table gives details of schemes where grants have been made or offered by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the County Council. Whilst the work has not been carried out in all cases, the offering of grants does indicate that the planning of the schemes is well advanced and that work is likely to commence in the near future.

Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Acts, 1944—51.

<i>Rural District</i>	<i>Details of Scheme</i>	<i>Ministry Grant</i>	<i>County Council Grant</i>	<i>Remarks—Stage of work at end of year etc.</i>
Caistor ...	<p>Former Market Rasen Water Undertaking (owned by Caistor R.D.)</p> <p><i>Scheme A.</i></p> <p>(i) Sealing lower spring at Bully Hill, construction of a 5,000 gallon collecting tank with interconnecting pipe work.</p> <p>(ii) Laying 6" diameter main from Bully Hill headworks to connect with existing reservoir at Tealby.</p> <p>(iii) Laying outstanding link mains in Market Rasen.</p> <p>(iv) Testing and where necessary renewing existing fittings etc. in existing distribution system in Market Rasen.</p> <p>Total estimated cost £5,900.</p> <p><i>Scheme B.</i></p> <p>(i) Laying 6" main from Tealby to reservoir site at Hamilton Hill.</p> <p>(ii) Laying 6" main from Hamilton Hill to link existing distribution system in Market Rasen.</p> <p>(iii) Purchase of site at Hamilton Hill to accommodate future storage of 500,000 gallons, capacity with immediate construction of one 100,000 gallons service reservoir.</p> <p>Total estimated cost £17,400.</p>	£4,000	£231 per annum for 30 years	Cost of work on which grant is based i.e. section in rural area—£14,477. Scheme A mainly completed.

<i>Rural District</i>	<i>Details of Scheme</i>	<i>Ministry Grant</i>	<i>County Council Grant</i>	<i>Remarks—Stage of work at end of year etc.</i>
Caistor ...	Section F of comprehensive water scheme covering parishes of Lissington and Linwood. Final cost of scheme £15,763.	£4,000	£162 per annum for 30 years.	Originally dealt with in 1950 and reviewed following reduction in estimated cost of £1,619
Glanford Brigg ...	Scheme for Bonby and Elsham. Partial scheme—estimated cost £2,405.	£600	£35 per annum for 30 years.	Not yet completed.
Glanford Brigg ...	Extension to Worlaby Causeway. Estimated cost £3,425. Contribution by owners (King's College, Cambridge) £1,265.	£450	£26 per annum for 30 years. (equivalent of Ministry Grant)	Scheme in abeyance—to be re-considered in view of proposals of North Lindsey Water Board for laying other additional mains
Hornecastle ...	Portion of comprehensive scheme covering parishes of Haltham, Tumby, Wispington and Mareham-le-Fen. Estimated cost £49,400.	£21,000	£1,081 per annum for 30 years.	Work completed. The total cost of the comprehensive water scheme is £369,000 and the total provisional grant fixed by the Ministry is £160,000 from which the present grant is taken.
Isle of Axholme ...	Extension to serve Haxey Carr. Final cost of Scheme £1,606.	£450	£16 10s. 0d. per annum for 30 years.	Work completed. Reviewed as cost below original estimate of £2,357 in 1950 by reason of reduction in length of main.

<i>Rural District</i>	<i>Details of Scheme</i>	<i>Ministry Grant</i>	<i>County Council Grant</i>	<i>Remarks—Stage of work at end of year etc.</i>
Louth ...	Sections of comprehensive water scheme:— (i) Strubby and Withern—Estimated cost £92,000.	£25,000	£1,403 per annum for 30 years.	Work proceeding.
	(ii) North Somercotes and Saltfleet—estimated cost £26,300.	£6,000	£347 per annum for 30 years.	Work proceeding.
	(iii) Binbrook Hall—estimated cost £2,550. (Note—Total estimated cost of comprehensive water scheme £753,209—provisional Ministry grant £250,000)	£500	£20 per annum for 30 years.	Completed.
Spilsby ...	Scheme for parish of Cumberworth. Estimated cost £3,868.	£650	£38 per annum for 30 years.	Completed.
Spilsby ...	Scheme for Fishtoft Drove, Frithville.	£100	£100	Work completed in 1948. Grants payable as the deficiency guaranteed by Spilsby R.D.C. to Boston Corporation, the statutory water undertakers was larger than anticipated.
Spilsby ...	Scheme for South Ormsby. Estimated cost £2,600.	£700	£40 per annum for 30 years.	Completed.

Sewerage and sewage disposal

Limited progress as permitted by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government has been made in connection with schemes for the provision of sewerage and sewage disposal. In addition to the schemes outlined in the table which appears at the end of this section, 18 schemes have been submitted for consideration, under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, or the Public Health Act, 1936.

The question of sewage disposal in many villages is becoming increasingly important as additional new houses are erected and the amenities of existing houses improved, by the installation of baths and W.C.'s.

The necessity to instal properly designed individual sewage treatment plants where public sewers and proper sewage disposal works are not available is appreciated by most authorities. This is particularly essential in North East Lincolnshire where the natural drainage of some villages is towards the chalk strata which provides much of the north of the County with its water supply. It has been necessary to make representation to the Glanford Brigg R.D.C. regarding polluted ditches, which by reason of their close proximity to houses, constitute a public health nuisance. In some cases this has arisen by reason of inadequate sewage disposal plants serving council houses.

The cost of sewerage and sewage disposal in many of the rural parishes is now in the region of £200 per property and, in some cases, the cost is considerably in excess of this figure. Low lying villages, necessitating the pumping of sewage, is contributing towards the high cost. In this connection the choice of sites for housing development should always be given every consideration in order to avoid the provision of unremunerative sewers in the future.

The Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Sub-Committee considered an application from the Woodhall Spa U.D.C. for grant aid for a scheme estimated to cost £29,700 to improve the sewerage and sewage disposal facilities in the District. The Committee were not able to recommend that the District be classed as a rural area or that a contribution be made under Section 307(i) of the Public Health Act 1936.

In addition to the schemes outlined in the following tables, the construction of sewage disposal works at Holton-le-Clay, Tetney and North Thoresby in the Louth R.D. is proceeding, and sewers have been laid in these parishes.

In the Spilsby R.D. improvement has been carried out to the sewage disposal works at Spilsby and Great Steeping.

The Glanford Brigg R.D.C. have effected limited improvements to sewage disposal plants serving sections of the villages of Appleby, Hibaldstow and South Killingholme.

The table overleaf gives details of schemes where grants have been made or offered by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the County Council.

Conversion of Pail and Vault Closets

During the year, 808 pail and vault closets have been converted to water closets, 708 of these being in the Rural Districts.

Refuse Disposal

In the Urban Districts, a weekly collection of refuse is maintained except for a small number of isolated sectors. The collection of refuse (and in some cases night soil) in the Rural Districts is mainly at intervals of two to three weeks. The frequency of collection is increased as necessary in the coastal sectors of the Spilsby Rural District during the holiday season. In the majority of parishes in the Horncastle Rural District, a collection is only made at quarterly intervals.

Disposal in most cases is by controlled tipping, but there are a small number of uncontrolled tips in the County. The reclamation of land (quarries, etc.) by controlled tipping, is a national concern, and is at present the subject of special study by a departmental committee of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, and three pilot schemes, including tipping into water-logged areas, are being carried out special consideration being given to the prevention of any pollution of water supplies, consolidation of refuse and the prevention of the generation of nauseating gases.

Factories

There are 1,600 factories on the registers of District Councils. Of these, 422 are without mechanical power, and the officers of District Councils are responsible for the enforcement of provisions relating to general cleanliness, over-crowding, temperature, ventilation, drainage of floors and sanitary accommodation. In the remaining 1,178 factories, mechanical power is used, and District Councils only enforce the provisions relating to adequate sanitary accommodation.

A total of 1,957 inspections of factories were made during the year, and the number of defects dealt with was 107.

Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944—51.

<i>Rural District</i>	<i>Details of Scheme.</i>	<i>Ministry Grant</i>	<i>County Council Grant</i>	<i>Remarks—Stage of work at end of year etc.</i>
Caistor	... Sewer extensions in Caistor. Estimated cost £3,000.	£1,250	£875	Work completed.
Glanford Brigg	... Scheme for Bottesford and Mellingham joint with part of Borough of Scunthorpe. Estimated cost of modified scheme £14,420.	£6,750	£3,835	Estimated cost of scheme reduced by £3,810 by modification. Sewage disposal works nearing completion. Laying of sewers expected to commence mid June 1955.
Glanford Brigg	... Modified scheme for Scawby to provide for the hamlet of Sturton. Estimated cost £15,600.	£6,000	£4,800	Work completed.
Grimsby	... Parish of Waltham. Scheme to provide for new housing and to reduce pollution. Estimated cost £25,334.	£11,000	£7,000	Section completed.
Grimsby	... Joint Trunk Sewer and Sea Outfall to serve the Borough of Cleethorpes and the adjoining parishes of the Grimsby R.D. Estimated cost to be borne by Grimsby R.D.C. Sea outfall £11,400 Joint Trunk Sewer £18,777	£10,000	£10,000	Work proceeding.
Horncastle	... Sewerage and Sewage Disposal for Wragby. Lowest Tender £41,800.	£15,000	£13,400	Work proceeding.
Louth	... Binbrook Sewage Disposal Works. Extension of sewage disposal works to meet requirements of village and Air Ministry. Estimated cost of section of scheme to be carried out at present £3,850.	Air Ministry contribution £2,522. Ministry of Housing and Local Government £750.	£268	Completed in 1955.
Spilsby	... Parish of Stickney. Provision of sewerage and sewage disposal works. Estimated cost of scheme £12,800.	£3,500	£3,500	Work proceeding. Original curtailed scheme estimated to cost £6,225 in 1951 but the section relating to the sewage disposal works was subsequently improved to meet objections raised by the Lincolnshire River Board and increased in size to meet requirements of whole village.
Spilsby	... Partney Road and Secondary Modern School, Spilsby. Estimated cost of scheme £6,400—actual cost £5,235. (section for new school £1,500 included in above).	£1,250	£1,053 plus £750 as Education Authority.	Revised grants owing to reduction in cost of scheme—work completed.
Welton	... Sewerage and Sewage Disposal—Bardney. Estimated cost £65,440.	£20,000	£14,300	Firm of Messrs. John Morrell, Fruit and Vegetable Canners agreed to contribute £16,833 towards scheme by reason of treatment of trade effluents. Work expected to commence in mid 1955.

Camping Sites and Movable Dwellings

The supervision of camping sites and movable dwellings by licensing and inspection continues to form an important aspect in connection with environmental hygiene. Over the whole County, 82 camping site licences, and 193 individual caravan licences were issued during the year, and 766 inspections of sites and caravans were carried out.

The majority of camping sites and caravans are situate on the coastal strip running from Mablethorpe to Skegness.

The County Council camping site at Ingoldmells continued to operate to a very satisfactory standard, and it is pleasing to note the provision of three blocks of water closets in lieu of the chemical closets, the latter being retained for use during emergencies only.

The disposal of drainage from many of the camping sites is presenting an ever increasing problem, owing to the high level of sub-soil water and the clay sub-soil. In the Spilsby Rural District a cess-pool emptying service is operated, and the requirements of camping sites have been given special consideration in connection with proposals for sewerage and sewage disposal, particularly at Ingoldmells, Chapel St. Leonards and Anderby Creek.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat Inspection

The de-control of meat and slaughtering arrangements by the Ministry of Food, in July, resulted in the re-licensing of numerous private slaughter houses and an increase in the number of animals slaughtered. Local Authorities have endeavoured to achieve 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered, which is very creditable and only in a few instances appear to have fallen short of this standard.

There has been a marked reduction in the slaughter of cows and an increase in the slaughter of other bovines (except calves). The percentage of all bovines and pigs found to be affected with tuberculosis has fallen slightly and also the percentage of bovines affected with non-tubercular diseases.

Inspection of meat for human consumption

Carcases Inspected		No. affected with Tuberculosis				No. affected with conditions other than Tuberculosis			
Animal	Total number	Whole carcasses condemned	Parts of carcase condemned	Total	%	Whole carcasses condemned	Parts of carcase condemned	Total	%
Cows	1,570	52	410	462	29.4	58	435	493	31.4
Other Bovines	11,724	53	1,490	1,543	13.2	38	2,308	2,346	20.0
Calves	687	3	—	3	0.4	49	19	68	9.9
Sheep & Lambs	39,672	—	—	—	—	220	1,312	1,532	3.8
Pigs	29,587	61	1,357	1,418	4.8	277	2,762	3,039	10.2
Horses	15	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	13.3

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

A total of 1,000 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst during 1954. The samples consisted of:—

					Formal	Informal	Total	Adulterated
Milk	...	...	...	...	246	333	579	46
Foods other than Milk	...	...	...	...	109	256	365	26
Drugs	...	...	...	...	12	44	56	Nil
Total					367	633	1,000	72

The overall adulteration figure remains the same as 1953 viz., 7.2% whilst in 1952 it was 2.43%.

Of the milk samples 246 were formal (33 or 13.4% adulterated) and 333 informal (13 or 3.9% adulterated) giving a total adulteration figure for milk of 7.9% as compared with 7.4% for the previous year. Of the 46 formal and informal samples of milk found to be adulterated, 34 were deficient in fat and 19 in non fatty solids. In 7 samples deficiencies occurred in both fat and non fatty solids.

In the case of samples deficient in milk fat, appeal to cow samples were taken in 9 instances which revealed natural fat deficiencies, and the producers concerned were advised to seek the assistance of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, to improve the quality of the milk.

Proceedings were instituted in connection with 2 cases of fat deficiencies and the results appear in the table dealing with this matter. In other cases warning or advisory letters were sent.

In 13 cases, natural deficiencies in non fatty solids were found to exist. Six samples of milk were found to contain added water and in the case of 5, legal proceedings were instituted, the details of which are reported.

The following table gives butter fat and non fatty solids averages of the samples taken during the year. The average fat content for all samples was 3.637% compared with 3.548% in 1953 and 3.623% in 1952.

The non fatty solids average for all samples was 8.779% compared with 8.798% in 1953 and 8.808% in 1952.

Averages of fat and non-fatty solids in milk samples taken during the year 1954

Month	Total taken	Adulterated		Fat %		N.F.S. %		Remarks
		Fats	N.F.S.	Average all samples	Average less adulterated	Average all samples	Average less adulterated	
January	86	4	2	3.593	3.69	8.880	8.90	1 sample deficient in both fat and non fatty solids.
February	45	6	3	3.477	3.59	8.762	8.78	2 samples deficient in both fat and non fatty solids.
March	68	6	5	3.501	3.59	8.601	8.743	3 samples deficient in both fat and non fatty solids.
April	77	6	—	3.752	3.83	8.825	8.830	
May	55	7	1	3.266	3.363	8.821	8.848	
June	59	2	—	3.615	3.647	8.534	8.548	
July	4	—	—	3.312	3.312	8.807	8.807	
August	25	2	1	3.401	3.54	8.786	8.858	
September	25	1	1	3.768	3.812	8.802	8.818	1 sample deficient in both fat and non fatty solids.
October	51	—	1	4.190	4.054	8.843	8.855	
November	19	—	1	3.953	3.738	8.882	8.907	
December	61	—	2	3.914	3.977	8.814	8.843	
Annual totals ...	575	34	17	—	—	—	—	7 samples deficient in both fat and non fatty solids.
Annual average ...	—	—	—	3.637	3.678	8.779	8.812	

NOTE : Two samples of abnormal quality but deficient in non fatty solids are not included in the above.

Other foods found to be adulterated included Spanish oranges (thiourea), potted meat, sausages, buttered confectionery and cheese and tomato spread.

In the case of the Spanish oranges evidence of thiourea was found in both the peel and interior of two samples. (thiourea is a chemical spray used to prevent mould). The matter has since been taken up by the Ministry of Food and, following representations made to the Spanish Government, the export to this country of oranges containing thiourea was prohibited.

Three samples of potted meat contained 5.29 %, 5.80 % and 4 % starchy matter. Following a communication to the manufacturers, the stocks were relabelled “ potted meat paste.”

Sixteen formal and informal samples of sausages and sausage meat were found to be deficient in meat, based on the standards laid down in the Meat Products (No. 3) Order, 1952, which was repealed in February, 1953. The minimum standard provided was 65 % meat in pork sausages and 50 % meat in beef sausages. Since the repeal of the Order the Ministry advised the trade that the display of a suitable notice would safeguard against prosecution for the sale of sausages of a lower standard than the above. Furthermore, it was stated in the House that returns from Food & Drugs Authorities for the latter part of 1954 indicated that the average meat content for pork sausages was 68 %, with an average price of 2/6¼ per lb. and in the case of beef the average meat content was 63 % and the average price was 2/0¼ per lb. In view of this the Minister of Food did not intend to re-introduce standards.

In the county food and drugs area the average meat content of 39 samples of pork sausage taken during 1954 was 63.54 % and the average price 2/7.7d. In the case of beef sausages the average meat content of 14 samples was 59.4 % and the average price 1/11d. per lb.

The above have included samples supplied to County Homes and where deficiencies have occurred in these instances formal samples have been taken and representation was made to the manufacturers concerned. The County Public Health Committee resolved that legal proceedings should only be taken where deficiencies were substantial in accordance with the previous legal standards and one case is reported in the table which follows.

Buttered confectionery is subject to control by a code of practice agreed between the Ministry of Food and the trade whereby if the word “ butter ” is used, the confectionery, or coating in the case of nuts or a similar interior, shall contain at least 4 % butter fat. If the amount of butter fat is less than this quantity the phrase “ butter flavoured ” should be used.

In four cases where deficiencies in butter confectionery have occurred, the stocks have been re-labelled “ butter flavoured ” and the details reported to the Food Standards Committee of the Ministry of Food.

An informal sample of cheese spread was deficient in fat to the extent of 6.64 %, the minimum prescribed by the Food Standards Committee being 45 %. The matter was reported to the Ministry.

Particulars of proceedings taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, during the year 1954

Sample Nos.	Nature of Sample	Nature of Adulteration	Result of action
A.2585	Milk	8 % Fat Deficiency	Fine £5 with £1 1s. 0d. costs
A.2631	Milk	12 % Added Water	Fine £2 with £3 3s. 0d. costs
A.2632	Milk	17 % Added Water	Fine £2 with £3 3s. 0d. costs (same producer)
B.1352	Milk	27 % Added Water	Fine £20 with £2 2s. 0d. costs
B.1353	Milk	40 % Added Water	Fine £20 with £2 2s. 0d. costs (same producer)
A.2856	Milk	19 % Added Water	Fine £2
A.2857	Milk	25 % Fat Deficiency	Fine £1
A.3001	Pork sausages	10 % Meat Deficiency	Fine £10 with £1 15s. 0d. costs

Biological Examination of Milk

A County sampling scheme for the biological examination of milk continued to operate throughout the year. Samples in most districts are taken by the local sanitary inspectors but owing to pressure of duties, (mainly meat inspection and the housing survey to a lesser extent) it has been necessary for the County Health Inspectors to take over the sampling in one rural district and to assist in another.

Details of all samples of milk showing positive evidence of tubercule are passed immediately to the District Medical Officer of Health and the Divisional Veterinary Officer. The latter Officer carries out a clinical inspection of the herd and submits individual samples of milk for further examination as necessary.

Nine samples of milk showed positive evidence of tuberculosis and following veterinary examination of the herds, nine cows were slaughtered and were found to be affected. In the case of one herd, no infected animals were located but in another herd two out of three cows were found to be infected.

All of the aforementioned samples were also examined for brucella abortus and 28 positive results were obtained. These were notified to the District Medical Officers of Health concerned and a visit paid to the producer in cases where milk is retailed in its raw state. In several cases where a small amount of milk only was being sold, the retailing of raw milk was voluntarily terminated and all milk sent to a pasteurising depot. In a further four cases, quarter sampling of the herd was carried out. The question of the intermittent secretion of the organism is always borne in mind in connection with the interpretation of results.

A series of samples were taken from selected herds in order to assist the Public Health Laboratory in investigations in connection with the direct culture test for brucella abortus. This test gives conclusive results in a much shorter time than the routine biological examination and is now used in connection with quarter sampling from herds.

No. of Samples of milk taken for biological examination	No. of Samples reported as negative	No. of cases where guinea pigs died	Tuberculosis Percentage of samples showing positive evidence		Brucella Abortus Percentage of samples showing positive evidence	
			1953	1954	1953	1954
502	486	7	1.9%	1.9%	4.2%	5.5%

Pasteurised Milk

Seven plants have been in operation throughout the year for the pasteurising of milk under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949, and licences were issued accordingly.

In two cases, the “ Holder ” type of pasteurising plant became unserviceable and was replaced by up-to-date H.T.S.T. plants. At the end of the year there were five H.T.S.T. plants and two “ Holder ” type plants in operation.

Experience has shown that it is essential for every dairy employee engaged in connection with the operation of H.T.S.T. plants to be fully conversant with all aspects of the mechanism including routine maintenance. In the case of the two new plants, it was felt that additional knowledge on the part of the operator, may have prevented samples of milk failing the phosphatase test.

Two important amendments to the regulations, designed to prevent contamination of the milk following processing, came into force on the 1st October, 1954:—

1. All milk must be put into the container in which it is to be delivered to the consumer, on the premises at which it is pasteurised as soon as possible after pasteurisation.

2. All containers (bottles or churns) in which milk is delivered, shall be securely fastened having a cap overlapping the lip of the container.

In connection with Item 2 above, it is gratifying to report that all dairies utilise machines for capping bottles, which also eliminates to a very large extent any possible contamination of the milk from the hands, after the milk has been pasteurised.

The dairies and pasteurising plants have been subject to frequent regular inspection and have on the whole been satisfactory throughout the year. In addition to sampling processed milk, plant swabs to check efficiency of cleansing and sterilising the plant and bottle rinses have been subject to laboratory examination. The following table shows details of samples of pasteurised milk taken during the year.

366 samples of pasteurised milk taken. Of these
8 (or 2.2%) failed the Phosphatase test, and
4 (or 1.1%) failed the Methylene Blue Test.

317 samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pastuerised) taken. Of these
3 (or 0.9%) failed the Phosphatase Test, and
2 (or 0.6%) failed the Methylene Blue Test.

For comparison the figures for the previous two years are given as follows.

Year	Pasteurised Milk		Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised)	
	Phosphatase Test % of failures	Methylene Blue Test % of failures	Phosphatase Test % of failures	Methylene Blue Test % of failures
1952	3.8	0.6	6.6	0.8
1953	2.0	0.5	1.3	0.3
1954	2.2	1.1	0.9	0.6

Specification of Areas

The Food & Drugs (Milk Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950, provides for the specification of areas by the Minister of Food in which the sale of non-designated milk is prohibited.

The County Health Committee considered a proposal of the Minister to declare the north-eastern sector of the County a specified area in early 1955 and welcomed the proposal in the interests of the promotion of public health.

The proposed specified area includes the Borough of Cleethorpes, the Urban Districts of Barton-upon-Humber, Brigg and Market Rasen and the Rural Districts of Caistor, Glanford Brigg and Grimsby. In addition the County Borough of Grimsby and the Borough of Scunthorpe which are separate Food and Drugs Authorities are included in the area.

The retail sale of the following designated milk only will be permitted under the Order—Tuberculin tested, Sterilised, Pasteurised.

The sale of milk by retail includes the sale from catering establishments, but the Order will not apply to the sale of non-designated milk by a producer to his employees, unless the producer engages in other sales of designated milk.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Pre-Natal Care

Only about 10% of Expectant Mothers in the County now attend the local Authority Ante-Natal Clinics. Most of these are patients who have not booked a doctor and are referred by the local midwives. The percentage before the National Health Service came into operation was as high as 60. Now that the expectant mother is entitled to free ante-natal advice it is natural and proper that she should seek it from the doctor who is to attend her at the confinement. The result is that clinic attendances have fallen to their present low level. The figures for 1954 are given below.

Attendances at Ante-Natal Clinics, 1954

Clinic	No. of expectant mothers	No. of attendances	Sessions held	Average attendance
Ashby	1	1	1	1
Brigg	42	156	27	6
Cleethorpes	73	192	51	4
Crowle	31	97	24	4
Epworth	7	23	23	1
Horncastle	36	115	28	4
Immingham	32	81	21	4
Lincoln	22	66	23	3
Louth	9	14	20	1
Market Rasen	19	84	26	3
Scunthorpe	110	162	51	3
Spilsby	11	30	21	2
Skegness	33	87	50	2
	426	1,108	366	3
Attendances for Ante-Natal examination at Welfare Centres ...	86	259	—	—
Total	512	1,367	—	—

Maternity outfits

These outfits are provided for domiciliary confinements free of charge on the recommendation of the doctor or midwife. The number issued during the year was 1,767.

Care of unmarried mothers

The special arrangements made with the Lincoln Diocesan Association for Moral Welfare for the care of the unmarried mother and her baby have continued to operate on the lines indicated in previous reports. All cases reported to the Authority are referred to the Association for investigation and for such action as may be considered necessary in the interests of both mother and baby. Cases requiring a period of institutional training are admitted to the Association's Home in Lincoln and to other homes as and when places can be obtained. The total number admitted in 1954 was 28. They usually stay for a period of 16 weeks by which time such arrangements as are possible for the re-establishment of the mother in the community and the care of the baby have been made.

Training in Mothercraft

The Health Visitors advise expectant mothers on mothercraft at the clinics, welfare centres and in their own homes. They made 1,351 home visits in this connection during the year.

Special Mothercraft Classes have again been held at Scunthorpe, Cleethorpes, Broughton, Messingham and Scotter.

Child Welfare

There were 55 Infant Welfare Centres operating in the County during the year. The number of sessions held was 2,022 at which 6,687 children made 57,431 attendances. In addition 252 Special Sessions were held for the routine examination of “ toddlers.” The number examined was 2,033 of which 252 were found to be in need of treatment and were referred to their own doctor or direct to hospital.

Parents who do not normally bring the “ toddlers ” to the Infant Welfare Centres are prepared to bring them by appointment to what they regard as a special examination. The result is that defects are dealt with which might otherwise remain untreated until the child starts school.

The following is a list of defects for which treatment was necessary.

Skin	...	...	...	...	36
Eyes—a. Vision	...	...	...	...	4
b. Squint	...	...	...	...	26
c. Other...	...	...	...	...	6
Ears—a. Hearing	...	...	...	...	—
b. Otitis Media—Rt.	...	...	...	...	—
Lt.	...	...	...	...	—
c. Other...	...	...	...	...	3
Nose or Throat	...	...	...	...	53
Speech	...	...	...	...	11
Cervical Glands...	...	...	...	...	7
Heart and Circulation	...	...	...	...	1
Lungs	...	...	...	...	10
Development —a. Hernia	...	...	...	...	1
b. Other	...	...	...	...	2
Orthopaedic —a. Posture	...	...	...	...	—
b. Flat Foot	...	...	...	...	3
c. Other	...	...	...	...	54
Nervous System—a. Epilepsy	...	...	...	...	—
b. Other	...	...	...	...	4
Psychological —a. Development	...	...	...	...	2
b. Stability	...	...	...	...	—
Other Defects	...	...	...	...	29

Care of Premature Infants

An infant is classified as premature if its weight at birth is 5½ lbs. or less. Those born at home are nursed by the District Nurse Midwives and subsequently supervised by the Council’s Health Visitors. The latter also undertake the supervision of those born in hospital from the time they are discharged. The number of premature live births reported in 1954 was 305 as compared with 321 in the preceding year. The premature still births on the other hand have increased from 44 last year to 65 in the current year. Further particulars relating to premature infants is given in the following table which has been prepared for the Ministry of Health.

Weight at Birth	Premature live births									Premature still births	
	Born in hospital			Born at home and nursed entirely at home			Born at home and transferred to hospital on or before 28th day			Born in hospital	Born at home
	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Alive at end of 28th day	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Alive at end of 28th day	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Alive at end of 28th day		
3 lb. 4 oz. or less	18	7	3	1	—	—	3	2	1	18	5
Over 3 lb. 4 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 6 oz.	36	6	21	10	—	9	8	—	6	16	1
Over 4 lb. 6 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 15 oz.	52	—	47	10	1	8	3	—	3	8	2
Over 4 lb. 15 oz. up to and including 5 lb. 8 oz.	116	3	113	47	—	47	1	—	1	9	6
Total	222	16	184	68	1	64	15	2	11	51	14

Infants attending Infant Welfare Centres during 1954.

Centres	Under one year		Over one and under two years		Over two and under five years		Total		No. of sessions	Average attendances per session
	No. attended	No. of attendances	No. attended	No. of attendances	No. attended	No. of attendances	No. attended	No. of attendances		
Alford	26	272	11	78	10	55	47	405	24	17
Appleby	6	38	2	40	6	20	14	98	22	4
Ashby	301	2,940	146	768	393	814	840	4,522	103	45
Bardney	30	163	3	43	29	89	62	295	24	12
Barnetby	41	457	23	143	35	225	99	825	28	29
Barrow-upon-Humber ...	10	154	7	79	17	78	34	311	28	11
Barton-upon-Humber ...	84	1,264	45	506	49	375	178	2,145	52	41
Binbrook	55	889	29	327	42	241	126	1,457	51	29
Broughton	40	436	20	87	13	59	73	582	24	25
Brigg	57	951	39	340	26	269	122	1,560	51	31
Burton-upon-Stather ...	18	224	8	63	9	79	35	366	24	15
Caistor	14	106	15	60	20	79	49	245	23	11
Chapel St. Leonards ...	17	123	3	57	25	142	45	322	24	13
Coningsby	57	330	23	92	22	91	102	513	23	22
Crowle	37	393	30	121	21	57	88	571	24	24
Cleethorpes	324	6,005	169	1,464	126	1,516	619	8,985	118	76
East Halton	17	187	13	79	27	108	57	374	24	16
Epworth	34	322	25	89	28	65	87	476	24	20
Fiskerton	22	158	16	63	37	77	75	298	24	12
Friskney	31	338	17	85	25	170	73	593	23	26
Gainsborough										
Spital Terrace ...	137	1,164	58	211	130	265	325	1,640	91	18
Woods Terrace ...	89	1,074	38	338	99	316	226	1,728	49	35
Goxhill	10	201	17	116	17	119	44	436	24	20
Haxey	27	271	21	96	30	68	78	435	24	20
Hemswell R.A.F. ...	45	402	18	137	32	110	95	649	25	26
Holton-le-Clay	7	107	7	35	19	75	33	217	23	9
Horncastle	60	906	28	299	61	312	149	1,517	52	29
Immingham	62	407	10	161	33	186	105	754	21	36
Keadby	35	719	42	179	12	235	89	1,133	24	47
Keelby	13	188	6	78	27	140	46	406	23	18
Kirton-in-Lindsey ...	24	156	10	49	27	71	61	276	24	12
Kirton-inLindsey R.A.F.	22	209	11	20	29	108	62	337	23	14
Laceby	10	182	7	153	5	94	22	429	23	18
Lincoln	13	36	4	10	21	29	38	75	52	2
Louth	88	989	45	358	25	406	158	1,753	52	34
Market Rasen	40	477	45	154	50	293	135	924	27	34
Mablethorpe	68	1,175	21	483	20	216	109	1,874	52	36
Messingham	17	297	9	178	35	259	61	734	52	14
New Holland	19	250	9	194	35	224	63	668	24	28
North Kelsey	12	124	5	44	13	84	30	252	24	11
North Somercotes ...	18	528	26	349	25	251	69	1,128	52	22
Scunthorpe	315	4,467	203	1,258	442	1,197	960	6,922	151	46
Skegness	104	2,226	78	493	37	134	219	2,853	53	54
Saxilby	20	222	14	80	18	88	52	390	24	16
South Killingholme ...	12	120	5	78	28	87	45	285	23	12
Spilsby	28	352	18	128	26	128	72	608	51	12
Tetney	18	171	11	112	29	98	58	381	24	16
Ulceby	11	140	6	53	24	138	41	331	23	14
Wainfleet	41	554	37	225	59	465	137	1,244	24	52
Waltham New	23	280	18	82	24	73	65	435	24	18
Waltham Old	27	372	18	158	32	160	77	690	24	29
Welton, Lincoln ...	13	137	7	48	17	76	37	261	28	9
Winteringham	8	104	8	46	19	106	35	256	24	11
Winterton	25	171	9	76	20	71	54	318	24	13
Winthorpe	6	105	4	31	2	13	12	149	24	6
Total	2,688	35,033	1,517	11,094	2,482	11,304	6,687	57,431	2,020	28

Day Nurseries

The Day Nursery at Gainsborough was closed early in the year owing to the fall in the daily attendances which had averaged only 14 during the previous year and was only 5 during the 3 months prior to closure.

The nursery at Scunthorpe is still in operation but here too the attendances have fallen considerably and averaged only 19 for the year.

Welfare Foods

In June of this year the County Council took over from the Ministry of Food the responsibility for the distribution of welfare foods, *i.e.* national dried milk, cod liver oil, orange juice and A & D tablets. Foods were being distributed from 114 centres in the County manned by voluntary workers. In addition in 9 areas distribution took place direct from Ministry of Food Offices. These offices were closed and it consequently became necessary for the Council to make alternative arrangements at Barton-upon-Humber, Cleethorpes (part of), Gainsborough, Horncastle and Skegness. Premises had to be hired at Epworth and Mablethorpe but in the other areas the transfer was from the Ministry of Food Offices to existing County Council premises. Paid staff owing to the lack of voluntary help was provided at 6 of these centres. The Women's Voluntary Service, who have been most helpful throughout, provided the staff at many of the remainder.

Since the Council became responsible for this work 10 new distribution centres staffed by voluntary workers have been opened.

Arrangements have also been made whereby Lindsey residents who previously obtained their supplies from Grimsby, Lincoln and Boston may continue to do so if they so wish.

The number of distribution centres in operation in the County at the end of the year was 132.

A few householders living in isolated parts of the County find it difficult to collect their supplies from the nearest Centre and in these cases arrangements have been made to forward supplies by post.

During the six months the Council has been operating the service issues have been made as follows:—

National Dried Milk	Tins	108,914
Cod Liver Oil	Bottles	16,664
Orange Juice	„	78,802
A & D Tablets	Packets	5,273

Dental Care

The Chief County Dental Officer, Mr. J. D. Sykes, reports on the dental care of expectant mothers and young children as follows:—

“ A further improvement in the staffing position has allowed a slight increase in the amount of time devoted to Maternity and Child Welfare work and of the re-opening of the Scunthorpe Clinic. This still leaves the clinics at Ashby, Barton-upon-Humber, Brigg, Crowle, Epworth, Immingham and Louth without a dental officer. For many years past more mothers have attended for dental treatment at the Gainsborough Clinic than any other and this year more have attended there than at all the others put together. These latter clinics, with the exception of Scunthorpe, not functioning in 1953, all show a reduction in mothers attending. In contrast Gainsborough shows fewer pre-school children attending whilst all the other clinics show more.

Most of the patients are referred by medical officers or health visitors from the ante-natal or infant welfare clinics and there are obvious advantages in arranging dental sessions in the same clinics and at the same times as the various M. & C.W. sessions. To some extent this is done but where it would necessitate a disproportionate amount of time being taken away from routine school work, M. & C.W. sessions are held when sufficient work has accumulated to justify them or else patients are invited to attend at the end of school sessions.

Whilst staff shortages persist it is essential that the dental officers' time should be used most effectively. This can be done more easily in the school service where some measure of control is exercised over the patients than in the M. & C.W. service where domestic responsibilities and the nature of the mothers' eligibility for treatment, together with transport difficulties in the rural areas particularly, make attendances somewhat erratic. It will be seen from the table that of 982 appointments made for mothers 177 were not kept and it is felt that whilst this year the figure is unduly high, nevertheless a considerable proportion of appointments broken will have to be accepted. In the case of the pre-school children, as always the number of broken appointments is very small indeed. Mothers appear to be more conscientious in this matter on behalf of their children than of themselves.

The following table of statistical analysis relating to adult treatment has been quoted in recent years to show in a simple way the effectiveness of the work being done. It will be seen that the progress of recent years has this year received a most noticeable set-back.

Year	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Extractions per patient ...	5.20	6.73	3.40	2.86	1.54	4.57
Fillings per patient ...	.75	.53	1.09	1.16	1.52	.90
Dentures per patient...	1.14	.69	.96	.41	.47	.53
Ratio of partial to full dentures	.77	.133	1.65	2.07	2.75	1.14

This is due entirely to the extra work done at Gainsborough, where 449 of the total of 654 extractions were done. The reason for this sudden increase of patients there is not known.

There has been again a slight increase in the number of pre-school children presented for inspection and consequent increases in the other related figures quoted in the statistical table. The relationship between the number of extractions and the number of fillings still indicates that the majority of these children are brought to the clinic because of pain or the apparent possibility of pain. Such change as there has been, however, has been for the better with a relatively greater increase in conservative work done.

Treatment is carried out in the dental officer's base clinic which is usually in the same building as the M. & C.W. Clinic. A portable X-ray unit is available when required and processing is carried out in the dark room at County Offices. Dentures and other prosthetic appliances are made in the Council's dental laboratory in Lincoln, though, owing to the protracted illness of Mr. A. E. Veale, the dental technician, much of the work has of necessity been sent out this year."

(a) Numbers provided with dental care

	New patients examined	New patients needing treatment	New patients treated	Number made dentally fit	Appointments	Attendances
Expectant and nursing mothers	167	163	143	81	982	805
Children under five	217	187	178	256	324	319

(b) Form of treatment provided

	Expectant and nursing mothers	Children under five
Extractions under —local anaesthetic ...	496	45
—general anaesthetic ...	158	239
Administrations of—local anaesthetic ...	259	27
—general anaesthetic ...	49	155
Fillings	129	90
Scalings and/or gum treatment	103	15
Silver nitrate treatment	6	27
Other operations, dressings, etc.	295	55
Radiographs	7	—
Dentures —complete	36	—
—Partial	41	—
—Repairs	6	—
Crowns	—	—
Inlays	—	—

MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING

In this County the Midwifery and Home Nursing Services are operated jointly, that is to say in most areas the nurse is doubly qualified and undertakes both midwifery and home nursing. To operate the services separately in a sparsely populated County such as this would, if the nurses and midwives were to be kept fully employed, necessitate the creation of districts so large that it would be impractical to work them efficiently or economically. In actual practice the present arrangement works very well. The staff employed consists of a Superintendent and two assistants, 73 nurse-midwives, 6 midwives and 14 district nurses.

Difficulty is still being experienced in finding nurses to fill vacancies especially in the rural areas and districts have been without a resident nurse-midwife for varying periods. In these districts it is often only possible with the assistance of nurses in neighbouring districts to run a limited service. Occasionally a retired nurse living in the district is found who is willing to give temporary assistance. On several occasions the Assistant Superintendents have had to undertake relief duties.

The periodic reports of the Superintendent Nursing Officer and her assistants who visit the nurse midwives once a quarter as a routine indicate generally the high standard of their work and their devotion to duty, not infrequently under very trying conditions.

Midwifery

Under the Midwives Act, 1951, the County Council is the supervising Authority for all Midwives practising in the Administrative County. The table which follows shows the total number of midwives in practice at the end of the year and the number of deliveries attended by midwives during the year.

Number of deliveries attended by Midwives in the Area during 1954.

	DELIVERIES ATTENDED						
	No.	Doctor not booked		Doctor booked		Totals	Cases in Institutions
		Doctor present	Doctor not present	Doctor present	Doctor not present		
Midwives employed by local health authority ...	79	20	171	597	1,007	1,795	—
Midwives employed by hospital management committees ...	50	—	—	—	—	—	2,870
Midwives in private practice ...	10	1	2	24	35	62	—
Totals ...	139	21	173	621	1,042	1,857	2,870

In addition to those shown in the above table the Council's Midwives attended 1,021 mothers in their own homes, who had been confined in hospital but discharged in under 14 days.

The number of home visits made by midwives to women in the ante-natal period was 15,247 and in the lying-in period 38,767. The proportion of mothers confined at home now seems to have become fairly stabilised around 40%.

There has been a substantial increase in the number of cases in which gas and air analgesia was administered by the Council's midwives during the year. The number 1,125 is 160 more than last year and represents 61 % of the cases attended as against 47% in 1953.

Home Nursing

The general arrangements for the provision of nursing in the home are unchanged and there is little unusual to report on the year's work. The demand on the service remains fairly constant though the very gradual trend upwards continues. Although the number of patients attended is 195 less than last year the number of visits involved has increased by over 10,000.

The classification of the cases attended is as follows:—

Medical ...	5,633
Surgical ...	2,640
Infectious diseases ...	12
Tuberculosis ...	90
Maternal complications	70
Others ...	57

The following table shows the growth of the service since 1949.

Home Nursing 1949—1954

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
County population ...	299,040	308,600	309,800	310,900	312,300	313,500
Nurses employed (whole-time equivalent) ...	46	47	48	49	51	51
Cases attended ...	7,204	7,208	7,867	8,256	8,697	8,502
Average cases per nurse ...	157	153	163	168	170	167
Visits paid ...	167,290	156,719	164,278	182,703	191,257	201,442
Average visits per nurse ...	3,637	3,334	3,423	3,729	3,730	3,950
Average visits per patient ...	23	21	20	22	22	24

HEALTH VISITING

In spite of the shortage of health visitors throughout the Country and although there were several retirements during the year on account of age or marriage, the number employed at the end of 1954 was 42 which is one more than last year. The establishment approved by the Minister of Health is 55.

Four are now in training under the Scheme initiated by the Council a few years ago and they should be available for posts towards the end of 1955.

The position has now been reached that any additional duties placed on the existing health visiting staff can only be carried out if the time given to other services is proportionately curtailed.

The Health Visitor's special training is not necessary for some of the duties at present allocated to them e.g. attendance at certain clinics and the inspection of school children as to cleanliness, etc.

If other staff was made available for this type of work health visitors could with advantage give more of their time to duties for which they have been specially trained. At Skegness the health visitor who attended the Hospital Board's Clinics has been replaced by a trained nurse and this is a policy which might well be extended.

The examination of children as to cleanliness takes up an unjustifiable proportion of the health visitor's time. Over 75,000 examinations are made annually. It is work which could be performed after a little instruction by a suitable lay person.

Additional responsibilities will shortly fall on the health visitors in connection with the prevention of the break up of families, as envisaged in Ministry of Health Circular 27/54. This is important work which they are well qualified to perform and many of them are already very interested in it. Unless it becomes possible to increase their numbers it will be necessary to curtail some of their present activities if they are to have adequate time to give to the problem families.

The work of the health visitors carried out during the year, some of which is referred to in other sections of this report, is summarised as follows:—

Sessions attended:—					Home visits to:—				
School Clinics	...	...	...	1,455	School children	...	...	...	4,543
Ante-Natal Clinics	...	...	...	366	Expectant mothers	...	...	...	1,351
Infant Welfare Centres	...	...	...	2,020	Infants under 1 year	...	...	...	36,396
Immunisation Clinics	...	...	...	105	Infants aged 1-5 years	...	...	...	47,218
Hospital Board Clinics	...	...	...	753	Mental defectives	...	...	...	2,492
School Medical inspections	...	...	...	988	Tuberculous patients	...	...	...	3,437
					Psychiatric patients	...	...	...	272
					Old people	...	...	...	927
					Patients discharged from hospital				430
					Others	...	...	...	838
					Examination of school children (cleanliness)				75,323

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Small pox

Although every effort continues to be made by the Council's Medical and Nursing Staff, to impress on parents the importance of having their babies vaccinated the response is not encouraging. Only 20% of infants under the age of one are vaccinated each year as compared with the national average of 34%. The proportion of the total population of the County adequately protected by vaccination having regard to the need for re-vaccination is probably not more than 10%.

Vaccination and re-vaccination records received during year, 1954

District	Primary vaccinations					Re-vaccinations				
	Ages at date of vaccination					Ages at date of vaccination				
	Under 1	1-5	5-15	15 or over	Total	Under 1	1-5	5-15	15 or over	Total
Urban										
Alford	16	—	1	3	20	—	—	—	—	—
Barton-on-Humber	33	3	3	3	42	—	—	—	1	1
Brigg	26	—	—	3	29	—	—	4	7	11
Cleethorpes Boro.	91	7	3	24	125	—	2	2	22	26
Gainsborough	74	1	2	11	88	—	2	—	10	12
Horncastle	17	—	—	—	17	—	—	—	—	—
Louth Borough	31	7	2	9	49	—	—	2	10	12
Mablethorpe and Sutton	19	4	—	1	24	—	—	—	—	—
Market Rasen	12	1	—	1	14	—	—	1	1	2
Scunthorpe Boro.	194	15	8	26	243	—	2	1	20	23
Skegness	41	12	8	15	76	—	1	3	93	97
Woodhall Spa	12	1	—	2	15	—	—	3	1	4
Rural										
Glanford Brigg	100	14	4	18	136	—	1	—	11	12
Caistor	67	8	1	7	83	—	—	5	10	15
Gainsborough	54	5	—	5	64	—	—	1	9	10
Grimsby	44	15	6	9	74	—	—	3	10	13
Horncastle	79	12	1	8	100	—	3	5	7	15
Isle-of-Axholme	20	4	2	6	32	—	—	1	—	1
Louth	66	11	9	11	97	—	1	5	16	22
Spilsby	66	9	7	12	94	—	1	1	13	15
Welton	48	4	2	7	61	—	—	—	6	6
Total	1110	133	59	181	1,483	—	13	37	247	297

Diphtheria

The number of children immunised during the year was 4,151. This is 384 more than last year and is the highest figure recorded since 1949.

The tables which follow give particulars (1) of the immunisations carried out in the different County districts and (2) of immunisation in relation to the child population at the end of the year.

Diphtheria immunisations carried out during year ended 31.12.54

District	Primary injections		Reinforcing injections
	under five years of age	between 5 and 14 years of age	
Urban			
Alford	24	—	28
Barton-upon-Humber ...	98	7	64
Brigg	48	29	66
Cleethorpes Borough ...	371	79	390
Gainsborough	216	28	159
Horncastle	36	19	16
Louth Borough	103	28	167
Mablethorpe and Sutton ...	39	16	77
Market Rasen	35	6	45
Scunthorpe Borough ...	662	210	883
Skegness	81	56	117
Woodhall Spa	22	—	34
Rural			
Caistor	153	45	247
Gainsborough	124	32	140
Glanford Brigg	327	87	310
Grimsby	205	49	171
Horncastle	141	12	153
Isle-of-Axholme	130	28	149
Louth	178	74	209
Spilsby	230	21	177
Welton	86	16	137
Total ...	3,309*	842	3,739

* This figure includes 231 Children who were immunised with a combined diphtheria and Whooping Cough Vaccine.

Number of children at 31st December, 1954, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time since 1st January, 1940

Age at 31st Dec., 1954	Under 1	1—4	5—9	10—14	
Born in year	1954	1953 — 1950	1949—1945	1944—1940	Total under 15
Number immunised	220	11,725	19,290	15,066	46,301
Estimated mid-year child population, 1954	Children under 1 5,120	Children 1—4 21,080	Children 5—14 49,200		75,400

Whooping cough

In June 1953, the Council introduced a scheme to enable parents who wished it, to have their children under 5 years of age immunised against whooping cough. The number immunised during the year was 1,400 as compared with 514 in the last half of 1953.

Whooping Cough Immunisation, 1954

District	Age at date of immunisation					
	Under One	One	Two	Three	Four	Total
<i>Urban.</i>						
Alford	7	4	—	1	—	12
Barton-upon-Humber ...	34	17	6	4	—	61
Brigg	21	2	1	—	4	28
Cleethorpes Borough ...	39	38	3	6	5	91
Gainsborough	19	12	5	1	4	41
Horncastle	12	2	2	—	—	16
Louth Borough	17	23	5	6	—	51
Mablethorpe & Sutton...	24	10	3	2	—	39
Market Rasen	16	5	2	1	6	30
Scunthorpe Borough ...	66	104	32	17	21	240
Skegness	11	17	5	2	2	37
Woodhall Spa	10	10	3	5	1	29
<i>Rural</i>						
Caistor	34	22	8	3	5	72
Gainsborough	42	23	3	1	3	72
Glanford Brigg	86	34	15	12	5	152
Grimsby	32	18	4	1	2	57
Horncastle	38	54	20	12	6	130
Isle-of-Axholme... ..	14	12	3	2	2	33
Louth	23	23	3	4	5	58
Spilsby	26	57	9	9	3	104
Welton	17	18	8	3	1	47
Total	588	505	140	92	75	1,400

Of the 514 children immunised in 1953, 69 had left the County or were otherwise lost sight of. 245 have been followed up and reported on by the health visitors who found that by the end of 1954, 10 of them had developed whooping cough but in two cases this disease had occurred before immunisation was completed. The remaining 235 children who had not developed the disease by the end of the year included 80 who were known to have been in contact with whooping cough.

With one exception the disease in those children who contracted it was classified as mild or very mild. The exception was a child where immunisation was completed in April 1953 and who developed a severe attack in August which lasted several months.

The follow up of all immunised children will be continued and it may eventually be possible to obtain some useful information bearing on the value of immunisation but at present the scheme has been in operation for too short a period and the numbers are too small for any definite conclusions to be arrived at.

Tuberculosis

B.C.G. vaccination is performed by the local chest physicians mostly in the case of children who are contacts of definite cases of tuberculosis. It is also offered in the cases of babies born of tuberculous parents even though the disease is arrested or cured. The number of vaccinations performed during the year was 124 as compared with 77 last year.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

This service has continued to operate on the lines indicated in previous reports.

Five new ambulances to replace a similar number of worn out vehicles were purchased during the year. An additional 9 ambulances were provided with wireless bringing the total number so equipped to 21. This gives adequate cover for the whole of the administrative County.

As will be seen from the table which follows the demand on the ambulance service is still increasing.

	5th July to 31st Dec., 1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Ambulances : Mileage ...	157,117	682,588	709,849	560,846	641,641	656,836	685,228
Hospital Car Service : Mileage	85,833	221,049	339,511	511,923	426,735	499,199	532,826
Other Authorities : Mileage	4,757	21,333	43,382	43,666	48,000 approx.	46,699	50,661
Total Mileage ...	247,707	924,970	1,092,742	1,116,435	1,116,376	1,202,734	1,268,715

The mileage increase for 1954 is due to the larger number of out-patients dealt with.

Compared with last year the number of in-patients transported by the Council's ambulances to or from hospital dropped by 2,740 resulting in a reduced mileage of 65,824. Out-patients on the other hand showed an increase of 10,560, the corresponding increase in mileage being 94,218.

Details of the cases dealt with by County Council Ambulance Service during year ended 31st December, 1954

Stations	Cases for admission to hospital			Cases for out-patient treatment			Cases discharged and transferred from hospital or institution			Totals		
	Stretcher cases (1)	Sitting cases (2)	Total mileage (3)	Stretcher cases (4)	Sitting cases (5)	Total mileage (6)	Stretcher cases (7)	Sitting cases (8)	Total mileage (9)	Stretcher cases (10)	Sitting cases (11)	Total mileage (12)
Louth	678	176	17,943	252	6,397	54,175	135	241	10,776	1,065	6,814	82,894
Cleethorpes	1,166	388	21,183	1,119	7,578	58,736	269	1,035	13,294	2,554	9,001	93,213
Gainsborough	544	224	17,104	256	4,847	37,290	145	622	10,965	945	5,693	65,359
Scunthorpe	1,996	833	29,897	6,289	30,833	149,673	548	2,074	19,747	8,833	33,740	199,317
Barton-upon-Humber	252	65	8,205	791	3,095	23,996	51	170	2,093	1,094	3,330	34,294
Skegness	735	293	31,219	338	4,276	61,417	207	754	23,076	1,280	5,323	115,712
Horncastle	241	98	13,168	54	1,425	15,205	45	127	4,540	340	1,650	32,913
Mablethorpe	245	84	10,454	528	2,561	21,122	43	96	2,777	816	2,741	34,353
Market Rasen	239	28	10,515	124	947	13,107	40	181	3,551	403	1,156	27,173
Totals	6,096	2,189	159,688	9,751	61,959	434,721	1,483	5,300	90,819	17,330	69,448	685,228

Number of accident and other emergency cases included in columns (10) and (11) ... 2,569

Table showing No. of cases conveyed by rail during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1954.

	Stretcher cases	Sitting cases	Rail miles	Mileage travelled by County Council ambulances and Hospital Car Service vehicles in conveying patients to and from stations
Six months ended 30.6.1954 ...	15	160	18,715	1,477
Six months ended 31.12.1954 ...	39	205	24,122	3,291
Twelve months ended 31.12.1954 ...	54	365	42,837	4,768

Cases dealt with under arrangements by other authorities and by the Hospital Car Service

	Stretcher cases			Sitting cases			Total number of cases (7)	Total number of journeys (8)	Total mileage (9)
	No. of cases (1)	No. of journeys (2)	mileage (3)	No. of cases (4)	No. of journeys (5)	mileage (6)			
1. Lincoln County Borough Council ...	1,389	631	17,509	2,387	994	30,862	3,776	1,625	48,371
2. Holland County Council ...	35	31	652	153	81	1,638	188	112	2,290
3. Hospital Car Service ...	—	—	—	30,874	11,087	532,826	30,874	11,087	532,826
Totals ...	1,424	662	18,161	33,414	12,162	565,326	34,838	12,824	583,487

Number of accident and other emergency journeys, included in column (8) ... 88

Personnel and Vehicles

The following table gives details station by station of the number of personnel employed and the number of vehicles in use at 31st December, 1954, as compared with the establishment fixed by the County Council. :—

	Whole-time Men		Retained Men		Female Attendants		Ambulances	
	Establishment	Number employed	Establishment	Number available	Establishment	Number enrolled	Establishment	Avail'ble for use
Louth	9	8	15	13	7	5	5 Ambulances 2 Sitting Case Cars	4 Am- bulances
Cleethorpes ...	9	9	12	9	7	3	5	5
Gainsborough ...	6	6	12	9	7	4	4	4
Scunthorpe ...	14	13	9	9	7	5	9	9
Skegness	6	6	12	11	7	4	4	4
Horncastle	2	2	12	12	3	2	1	1
Mablethorpe ...	2	2	12	12	3	2	1	1
Market Rasen ...	2	2	12	10	3	1	1	1
Barton-upon-Humber	2	2	12	12	3	3	1	1
Totals	52	50	108	97	47	29	31 Ambulances 2 Sitting Case Cars plus 2 spares	30 Am- bulances

Number of vehicles off the road for repair or overhaul at 31-12-54—3

Personnel—Training in First Aid

The following statement indicates the position regarding the qualifications of personnel to administer first aid treatment at 31st December, 1954.

Whole-time Personnel

Untrained but receiving training	7
Trained to CERTIFICATE standard	—
Trained to VOUCHER standard	9
Trained to MEDALLION standard	34

Retained Personnel

Untrained but receiving training	8
Trained to CERTIFICATE standard	10
Trained to VOUCHER standard	6
Trained to MEDALLION standard	73

Female Attendants

Nursing experience	16
First Aid qualifications	13
Untrained	—

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE

Local Authority services under this heading are provided in accordance with Section 28 of the National Health Service Act. They are supplementary to the services for which provision is made in other Sections. The details of the facilities which have been made available in the County were given in last year's report and are unchanged.

Tuberculosis

The Council's Medical and Nursing Staff continued to work in close co-operation with the local chest physicians in all matters relating to the prevention of tuberculosis and the welfare of tuberculous patients.

Home Visits

Routine home visits made during the year to tubercular households by the health visitors numbered 3,473.

Reports on the result of these visits were forwarded to the chest physicians.

Examination of Contacts

The number of contacts examined was 783 giving a ratio of 3 for each new case of tuberculosis reported.

Extra Nourishment

Although the National Assistance Board makes cash allowances to tubercular patients for extra nourishment the County Council provides additional milk and eggs on the recommendation of the chest physicians. Eighty three patients were thus provided for during the year.

Shelters

Garden shelters are provided at the request of the chest physicians. Five were in use at the end of the year.

Bedsteads and Bedding

Four patients were issued with bedsteads and bedding and 7 with bedding only.

Rehabilitation

Three County patients are undergoing training at Papworth Hall Village Settlement.

Protection of Children

To eliminate as far as possible the risk of infection of children by adults suffering from tuberculosis, special arrangements have been made for the medical and X-ray examination of members of the Council's staff whose duties bring them into close contact with children. The staff at the day nursery and Children's Homes are X-rayed on appointment and thereafter annually. Nurses, midwives, health visitors and teachers are X-rayed on appointment. Staff employed in school canteens, at the Seacroft Special School and at residential grammar schools are medically examined on appointment and X-rayed where the examining doctor considers it necessary.

All members of the staff are encouraged to undergo X-ray examinations through the mass radiography unit as and when they have the opportunity.

The number of staff X-rayed under these arrangements during the year was 879 and the number examined without X-ray 532.

Mass Radiography

The centres in the County visited by the Mass Radiography Unit during 1954 were Barton-upon-Humber, Brigg, Cleethorpes, Horncastle, Louth, Market Rasen and Spilsby. Figures provided by Dr. J. Bauer who is in charge of the Unit are given below and show that the number of persons X-rayed was 7,668 as compared with 20,586 in the previous year. The number for the year includes 3,329 children about to leave school.

	Males	Females	Totals
Miniatures taken	3,338	4,330	7,668
Cases of post primary active tuberculosis	1	3	4
Cases of post primary inactive tuberculosis	6	10	16
Cases of bronchiectasis	—	2	2
Cases of neoplasm (malignant disease)	1	1	2
Cases of cardiac abnormality	2	7	9

Other Illness

Patients referred to the County Council during the year as in need of help or advice, numbered 832 of which 600 were reported by doctors, nurses and others, and 232 by hospitals. They included among others Maternity cases requiring nursing after discharge from hospital, patients in need of a period of rest at a convalescent home, old people for admission to hostels, old people and others requiring domestic help, premature infants for supervision after leaving hospital, tuberculous patients discharged from sanatoria, patients in need of some special equipment or apparatus, children not adequately cared for at home, mental defectives and patients suffering from mental illness.

Each case referred is investigated and where necessary given the appropriate advice and help. In most cases the Service necessary is available through one or other of the Health Committee's schemes. Problems relating to old people are referred to the County Welfare Officer and those relating to children to the Children's Officer. In connection with a number of cases it has been necessary to consult officers of the National Assistance Board and the Ministry of Labour.

Loan of Equipment

Equipment required in the routine nursing of patients is held by the district nurses and supplied on loan as required. Other articles of equipment requested by the doctors or nurses have been supplied direct from the County Health Department as follows:—

Equipment	No. of patients supplied
Bedding	4
Bedsteads	11
Commodes	2
Crutches	12
Fracture Boards	3
Mattresses	66
Premature Baby Cot	1
Self Lifting Poles	5
Wheel Chairs	37

Convalescence

The number of patients admitted under the Council's scheme to convalescent homes for a recuperative holiday was 24. Cases are only admitted on the recommendation of a doctor. The average stay of the patients admitted in 1954 was 2.5 weeks.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

This service has worked smoothly throughout the year. The staff consists of an organiser and three assistant organisers, who are employed full time. No full time helpers are employed but the organisers keep a rota of women who are willing to act as home helps as and when required. The number employed varies considerably from time to time but it is usually in the neighbourhood of 175. The helps available are fairly well distributed throughout the County but a few instances have occurred during the year where the services of a help could not be obtained where it was needed. Requests for help in the majority of cases come from the householder concerned. A considerable number however are also received from those interested in the welfare of old people and the chronic sick, doctors, nurses, hospital almoners, welfare officers, the National Assistance Board and others.

The total number of applications investigated by the organiser during the year was 981 as against 890 last year. In 615 of these help was provided. There were 7 cases where help although needed was not provided; in two cases because there were home conditions under which the home helps were unwilling to work and in five cases because the necessary help could not be obtained. Householders frequently apply for help apparently on the assumption that the Service is free and withdraw their applications on being informed that they will be required to pay in accordance with the Council's scale. There were 179 requests withdrawn for this reason during the year.

Patients discharged from hospital are often referred by almoners as requiring help on discharge. Cases are also referred by the National Assistance Board and others. In 110 of the cases in this category which were investigated by the organisers the householder concerned either intimated that they did not consider any additional help was required or if it was that they preferred to make their own arrangements.

The following table shows the classification of the cases in which help was provided, the time which helpers devoted to the various categories and the number of hours in respect of which the County Council received payment in whole or in part.

Category	No. of cases	Allocation of hours worked			
		Minimum Charge	Part payment	Full charge	Total
Chronic sick ...	218	36,177	27,369	701	64,247
Aged and infirm	238	41,532	12,919	839	55,290
Tuberculosis ...	4	205	327	101	633
Maternity ...	41	126	1,673	1,001	2,800
Other ...	114	3,063	5,309	3,294	11,666
Total ...	615	81,103	47,597	5,936	134,636

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

The general arrangements for the administration of this Service are unchanged. The staff remains the same and the close co-operation which has existed between the Hospital Board and its Management Committees, and the Local Health Authority, have been fully maintained.

The ascertainment and care of mental defectives has been the responsibility of the County Council for many years and is a well established service. The prevention of mental illness and the after care of the mentally sick on the other hand is relatively undeveloped territory. Only a limited amount of preventive and after care work is undertaken in this connection and there seems to be little hope of extending it until the additional staff approved for the purpose are available. The hospital board through their Hospital Management Committee has established out-patient psychiatric clinics in the main hospitals in the County which when the circumstances permit and subject to the agreement of the Hospital Board might well function as the centres for the operation of a preventive and after-care scheme.

Mental Deficiency

The number of defectives ascertained and whose names were added to the register during the year was 72. Cases whose names were removed from the register owing to their having left the County, died or being no longer in need of care, numbered 58. At the end of the year the total number remaining on the register was 1,109.

The new cases reported included 33 children found to be ineducable and referred by the Education Authority. Of the total cases on the register at the end of the year, 485 (including 102 on the waiting list for institutions), were under statutory supervision, 475 were in institutions, 9 were under guardianship and 140 under voluntary supervision.

Supervision

Supervision is carried out by the health visitors who visit the defectives regularly in their own homes. The number of visits made during the year was 2,492. Unsatisfactory environmental conditions exist in the case of most of those defectives on the waiting list for institutions but in the absence of sufficient hospital accommodation there is little that can be done about it. Unsatisfactory housing and sanitary conditions are referred to the district councils who have been most co-operative in their endeavour to remedy the defects.

Institutional Care

Compared with 1953 there were 5 more cases in institutions at the end of the year. The number admitted under Statutory Order was 21 as against 24 in 1953. Under Ministry of Health Circular 5/52 mental defectives can now be admitted to hospital for temporary periods up to two months, without legal formality. There were 9 cases admitted in this way in 1954. Cases so admitted usually take the place of other defectives under institutional care who are temporarily absent for one reason or another. This is a most valuable arrangement and has been instrumental in a number of instances in helping parents to tide over temporary difficulties in the home as for example the mother having to go into hospital for a short period. It has also in other cases enabled harassed parents to have a much needed holiday.

At the end of the year there were 102 defectives awaiting admission to hospital 39 of whom are classified as “urgent.”

Guardianship

Of the nine cases under guardianship seven are adults and two are children. One of the adults is at work as a labourer. The remainder are unsuitable for employment. One of the children attends the occupation centre and the others will be able to attend when the centre is open at Scunthorpe.

Occupation and Training

The occupation centres at Louth and Skegness hitherto run by the local branches of the Parents of Backward Children Association, have by agreement been taken over by the County Council. The Council has also opened a centre in Gainsborough.

Plans have been approved for the erection of a new centre at Scunthorpe to accommodate 50 defectives and it is hoped to commence building operations during 1955. The arrangement which the County Council has with the Grimsby Authority whereby defectives resident in Cleethorpes and other adjacent areas may attend the Grimsby Centre, continues.

The centres at Gainsborough, Louth and Skegness not only serve the town in which they are situated but also in each case the surrounding rural area for a radius of approximately 12 miles. This has necessitated the provision of special transport. Two vehicles are in use at Skegness, one at Louth and one at Gainsborough.

Admission to the Centres is restricted to Children not over the age of 16 years. The numbers in attendance at the end of the year were as follows:—

Gainsborough	14	Skegness	...	25	
Louth	...	13	Grimsby	...	11

The occupation centres, in addition to the training given to the children in attendance which is their primary object, also afford parents a measure of relief from the responsibility of looking after them in their homes which is much appreciated. There are still however a number of defectives living in rural areas remote from an occupation centre who are suitable for occupational training and for whom no provision has yet been made. The most practicable way of dealing with these would appear to be by the appointment of home teachers who would travel to the villages and undertake the training of defectives collected in small groups, for one or two sessions a week.

The difficulty of obtaining staff for occupation centres has led the Council to institute a scheme for the training of Supervisors and Assistant Supervisors. Selected candidates attend the course held at Manchester and arranged by the National Association for Mental Health. The course fees and the cost of maintenance of the students are paid by the Council. The course extends over a period of 9 months and is both theoretical and practical. Two students will complete their training in July 1955 and a further four will commence their studies in September 1955. Students undertake that on completion of their training they will serve the Council for a period of at least 2 years.

Register of mental defectives as on 31.12.54

	Under age 16		Aged 16 and over		Total
	M	F	M	F	
1. Disposal of cases					
(a) Cases "subject to be dealt with" ...					
(i) Under statutory supervision ...	93	84	166	142	485
(ii) Under guardianship ...	1	1	3	4	9
(iii) In "places of safety" ...	—	—	—	—	—
(iv) In institutions ...	37	10	224	204	475
(b) Cases not at present "subject to be dealt with"					
(i) Under voluntary supervision ...	—	—	73	67	140
(ii) Action unnecessary ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total number of defectives on the register on 31.12.54 ...	131	95	466	417	1,109
2. Classification of cases					
(a) Awaiting institutional care :—					
(1) Urgent					
(i) Cot and chair cases ...	—	1	1	4	6
(ii) Ambulant low grade cases ...	2	1	4	1	8
(iii) Medium grade cases ...	4	1	7	5	17
(iv) High grade cases ...	—	1	3	4	8
(2) Not urgent					
(i) Cot and chair cases ...	1	1	2	6	10
(ii) Ambulant low grade cases ...	3	4	2	—	9
(iii) Medium grade cases ...	6	1	15	12	34
(iv) High grade cases ...	—	1	4	5	10
Total number of defectives waiting institutional care on 31.12.54 ...	16	11	38	37	102
(b) Considered suitable for training :—					
(i) Occupation centre ...	81	71	17	21	190
(ii) Industrial centre ...	—	—	12	10	22
(iii) Home training ...	5	9	3	3	20
Total ...	86	80	32	34	232
(c) Receiving training :—					
(i) In occupation centre ...	29	30	1	3	63
(ii) In industrial centre ...	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) At home ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	29	30	1	3	63
3. Cases removed from register during 1954 :—			M	F	Total
(a) Ceased to be under care ...			3	6	9
(b) Died, removed from area, or lost sight of ...			29	20	49
Total			32	26	58
4. (a) Number of cases under supervision or guardianship who have given birth to children while unmarried during 1954 ...					1
(b) Number of cases who have married during 1954 ...				2 male	3 female

Particulars relating to defectives ascertained during 1954

	Under age 16		Age 16 and over		Total
	male	female	male	female	
1. Cases reported during 1954					
(a) Cases reported by local education authority (Section 57, Education Act, 1944):—					
(i) Under Section 57 (3)	18	15	—	—	33
(ii) Under Section 57 (5)					
On leaving special schools ...	—	—	—	—	—
On leaving ordinary schools	6	5	—	—	11
(b) Cases referred by the police or by the courts under Section 8 (1) (a) (or as a result of other action by the courts)	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Other defectives reported during 1954					
(i) found “subject to be dealt with”	1	2	8	11	22
(ii) not at present “subject to be dealt with”	—	—	4	2	6
Total number of cases reported during the year	25	22	12	13	72
2. Disposal of cases reported during 1954					
(a) Cases found “subject to be dealt with”					
(i) Placed under statutory supervision	24	21	7	10	62
(ii) Placed under guardianship ...	—	1	—	—	1
(iii) Taken to “places of safety” ...	—	—	—	—	—
(iv) Admitted to institutions	1	—	1	1	3
(b) Cases not at present “subject to be dealt with”					
(i) Placed under voluntary supervision	—	—	4	2	6
(ii) Action unnecessary	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	25	22	12	13	72

Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts

It is the duty of the Local Health Authority through their authorised officers to take the necessary proceedings under these Acts to provide care and treatment in hospital of persons suffering from mental illness. The authorised officers are chiefly concerned with those cases in which certification and the making of a Statutory Order is involved, although they do advise and assist the patient and relatives when voluntary admission is sought.

The following is a summary of the cases dealt with by these officers during the year.

Cases investigated	258
Admitted to mental hospital:—	
as certified patients under Section 16, Lunacy Act, 1890	123
on 3 day order under Section 20, Lunacy Act, 1890	34
on 14 day order under Section 21, Lunacy Act, 1890	57
as voluntary patients under Section 1 Mental Treatment Act, 1930	7
as temporary patients under Section 5 Mental Treatment Act 1930	1
No action necessary	36

Patients in need of after-care on discharge from the Bracebridge Heath Hospital are referred by the Medical Superintendent to the local health authority whose health visitors make routine visits to the patients' homes. The latter help and advise the patients and their relatives and make periodical reports on the patients' progress and on the environmental conditions, copies of which are forwarded to the Hospital Superintendent. The number of cases referred from the hospital in 1954 was 41 as compared with 29 in the previous year. The total cases under supervision during the year was 50. The number of home visits made to these by the health visitors was 272.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

There was no unusual prevalence of any of the more serious notifiable diseases during the year. The total number notified (excluding acute rheumatism) was 2,481 fewer than in 1953.

Poliomyelitis

18 cases of this disease, 11 paralytic and 7 non-paralytic were reported. The corresponding figures for last year were 17 and 5.

Of the paralytic cases 2 occurred in children under 5 years, 2 in children of school age and 7 in adults. Of the non-paralytic cases 5 were in school children and 2 in adults.

Diphtheria

Six cases of diphtheria were notified as against five in the preceding year. One was a child under the age of 5 years, one was aged between 5 and 15 years and the remaining four were over the age of 15. In the days prior to immunisation the number of cases reported annually in the County was rarely below 200 and was often very much higher.

Dysentery

The number of notifications of dysentery was 306 compared with 104 last year. More than 90% of the cases occurred in urban areas. The highest incidence was at Scunthorpe where 216 cases were reported.

Acute Rheumatism

Cases of acute rheumatism in children up to the age of 16 years notified during 1954 numbered 23 as comapred with 9 last year. The average for the 7 years since the rheumatism regulations came into operation is 22.

Tabulation by age, sex and clinical classification of cases notified as Acute Rheumatism during 1954.

Clinical classification of cases notified	Age in years								Total all ages		Total both sexes
	0-4		5-9		10-14		15 and over				
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
1. Rheumatic pains and/or arthritis without heart disease	—	—	2	1	2	4	1	—	5	5	10
2. Rheumatic heart disease (Active) (a) with polyarthritis (b) with chorea ...	1 —	— —	1 —	2 2	2 —	1 —	— —	— —	4 —	3 2	7 2
3. Rheumatic heart disease (Quiescent)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Rheumatic chorea (alone)	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	2	2	4
Total rheumatic diseases	1	—	4	6	5	6	1	—	11	12	23
5. Congenital heart disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Other non-rheumatic heart disease or disorder	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Non rheumatic or cardiac disease.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Total non-rheumatic diseases	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1

Tuberculosis

The number of new cases reported under this heading is slightly lower than last year for both the respiratory and non-respiratory forms of the disease. The number of persons dying from tuberculosis who had not been notified during life as being tubercular, was 6, a gratifying reduction on last year's figure of 15.

The tables which follow give particulars of the incidence of infectious diseases in the County during the year.

Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases in Urban and Rural Districts, 1954

Sanitary Districts	Total number notified	Scarlet fever	Whooping cough	Acute poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Acute poliomyelitis (Non-paralytic)	Measles	Diphtheria and membranous group	Pneumonia	Dysentery	Acute encephalitis (post-infectious)	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Paratyphoid fevers	Erysipelas	Meningococcal infection	Food poisoning	Puerperal pyrexia	Malaria (believed to be contracted abroad)	Respiratory tuberculosis	Non-respiratory tuberculosis
Urban																			
Alford	7	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barton-upon-Humber	38	—	5	—	—	2	—	3	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Brigg	179	30	20	1	—	117	—	2	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	5	1
Cleethorpes Borough	248	61	46	1	—	15	—	34	22	—	—	—	9	1	2	12	—	39	6
Gainsborough	159	4	30	—	—	109	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	5
Horncastle	24	9	11	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Louth Borough	58	1	36	—	—	6	—	1	7	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	6	—
Mablethorpe & Sutton	22	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	7	1	—	1	—
Market Rasen	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Scunthorpe Borough	820	76	295	1	6	108	3	44	216	1	—	—	4	8	12	4	—	39	3
Skegness	6	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Woodhall Spa	14	8	—	—	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	1,576	193	449	5	6	360	3	99	278	1	—	—	21	9	23	17	—	97	15
Rural																			
Caistor	89	12	51	1	—	4	—	3	7	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	—	1	4
Gainsborough	102	3	54	—	—	23	—	2	7	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	1	7	1
Glanford Brigg	298	40	125	4	—	72	1	21	5	—	—	—	6	—	1	2	—	16	5
Grimsby	232	13	70	—	—	130	—	3	3	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	—	2	6
Horncastle	138	18	78	—	—	15	1	17	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	6	—
Isle of Axholme	86	8	1	—	—	72	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	—
Louth	163	1	124	—	1	3	—	18	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	3	—	7	2
Spilsby	121	14	49	1	—	12	—	24	2	—	—	—	3	1	—	2	—	11	2
Welton	22	4	4	—	—	5	1	—	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	2	—	—	1
	1,251	113	556	6	1	336	3	88	28	—	1	1	20	2	5	15	1	54	21
Total for County	2,827	306	1,005	11	7	696	6	187	306	1	1	1	41	11	28	32	1	151	36

Cases of tuberculosis reported from all sources, 1937-1954

Year	Respiratory	Non-respiratory
1937	242	105
1938	264	118
1939	241	118
1940	230	106
1941	198	118
1942	226	106
1943	252	113
1944	253	105
1945	305	104
1946	300	91
1947	311	78
1948	267	80
1949	211	52
1950	219	57
1951	250	60
1952	234	43
1953	224	45
1954	220	40

Summary of formal notifications during the period from the 1st January, 1954, to the 31st December, 1954

					Formal notifications													
Age periods					0–	1–	2–	5–	10–	15–	20–	25–	35–	45–	55–	65–	75 and upwards	Total (all ages)
Respiratory males					–	–	1	6	5	15	6	15	9	12	6	6	–	81
Respiratory females					–	–	4	3	6	9	14	13	12	5	2	2	–	70
Non-respiratory males					–	–	1	5	3	–	2	2	1	1	–	–	–	15
Non-respiratory females					–	–	2	4	3	3	2	3	2	1	1	–	–	21

New cases coming to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health during the year, otherwise than by formal notification

Age periods	0–	1–	2–	5–	10–	15–	20–	25–	35–	45–	55–	65–	75 and upwards	Total cases
Respiratory males	–	–	2	2	2	2	5	10	2	4	1	1	–	31
Respiratory females	1	–	1	1	5	2	6	12	5	2	1	1	1	38
Non-respiratory males	–	1	–	–	–	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	3
Non-respiratory females	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1

Venereal Disease

New cases reported each year since 1943

Year	Syphilis	Gonorrhoea	Total
1943	74	156	230
1944	78	132	210
1945	85	115	200
1946	130	220	350
1947	166	196	362
1948	72	122	194
1949	59	63	122
1950	63	46	109
1951	49	42	91
1952	37	44	81
1953	18	43	61
1954	33	36	69

Number of cases of Syphilis and Gonorrhoea under treatment during the year 1954 at clinics situated in the County.

Clinic	Syphilis	Gonorrhoea	Total
Gainsborough ...	18	3	21
Louth ...	21	—	21
Scunthorpe ...	70	20	90
Skegness ...	5	3	8
Total ...	114	26	140

WELFARE OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS

Blind and partially sighted persons

The number of new cases registered during the year was 126; blind 98 and partially sighted 28. The totals on the register at the end of the year were blind 576 and partially sighted 87. Cataract and glaucoma are the chief causes of blindness in old people. Both are amenable to treatment but through failure to obtain it for one reason or another, blindness in a number of cases does occur which might otherwise have been avoided. The Minister of Health has therefore asked to be provided with information, in accordance with the following table, showing the number of new cases recommended by the Ophthalmic Specialists for treatment and the number who after follow-up had received treatment by the end of the year.

		<i>Cause of Disability</i>			
		<i>Cataract</i>	<i>Glaucoma</i>	<i>Retrolental Fibroplasia</i>	<i>Other</i>
(i)	Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para 7 (c) of Form BD8 recommends				
(a)	no treatment	13	6	—	44
(b)	treatment (Medical Surgical & Optical)	31	12	—	20
(ii)	Number of cases at (1) (b) above which on follow up have received treatment	12	6	—	16

It will be noted that treatment was recommended in 63 cases and obtained in 34. It is necessary to point out that in the remaining 29 not treated, are included 11 refusals, 6 awaiting admission to hospital, 1 unfit to undergo treatment, 1 death, 1 transfer from the County and 9 cases reported towards the end of the year in which arrangements for treatment had not been completed.

There were no cases of blindness due to retrolental fibroplasia reported in 1954.

There was one case of ophthalmia neonatorum which occurred in a baby born in hospital. The condition was treated in hospital and follow-up on discharge showed there was no impairment of vision.

Blind—New cases registered in 1954

Causes of eye defects	Age at which blindness occurred							
	0-5	5-16	16-21	21-40	40-70	Over 70	Total	
A. Congenital & undetermined causes								
(1) Congenital, heredity & developmental defects	1	1	—	1	—	—	3	3.06
(2) Myopic error	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1.02
(3) Glaucoma primary	—	—	—	—	3	12	15	15.30
(4) Cataract primary	—	—	—	—	5	27	32	32.65
(5) Other primary ocular defects	—	—	—	—	3	10	13	13.27
(6) Other e.g. amblyopia	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	2.04
Total ...	1	1	—	1	14	49	66	67.34
B. Infectious & bacterial								
(1) Trachoma	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1.02
(2) Local infection of coats of eye	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1.02
(3) Specific fevers-measles	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1.02
(4) Eczematous kerato-conjunctivitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1.02
Total ...	1	—	—	—	2	1	4	4.08
C. General Diseases								
(1) Vascular diseases, including cerebral vascular lesions	—	—	—	—	1	10	11	11.23
(2) Intracranial neoplasm	1	2	—	—	—	—	3	3.06
(3) Diabetes	—	—	—	—	7	3	10	10.21
(4) Other general disease	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2.04
(5) Nephritis	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1.02
Total ...	1	2	—	—	9	15	27	27.56
E. Unclassified Causes Total ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1.02
GRAND TOTAL ...	3	3	—	1	25	66	98	
Percentage ...	3.06	3.06	—	1.02	25.52	67.34		100.00

Partially sighted—New cases registered in 1954.

Cause of eye defect	Age at which partial sight occurred							
	0-5	5-16	16-21	21-40	40-70	Over 70	Total	
A. Congenital & undetermined causes								
(1) Congenital, hereditary & developmental defects ...	2	—	—	—	—	1	3	10.72
(2) Myopic error	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3.57
(3) Glaucoma primary... ..	1	—	—	—	—	2	3	10.72
(4) Cataract primary	1	—	—	—	3	9	13	46.42
(5) Primary ocular defects	—	—	—	—	2	6	8	28.57
Total	4	—	—	—	5	19	28	—
Percentage	14.30	—	—	—	17.85	67.85	—	100.00

The following tables from the annual report of the Lindsey Blind Society show the position of blind and partially sighted persons in the County as regards training and employment at 31st March, 1954.

Register of Blind Persons at 31st March, 1954

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>% of total</i>
Children 2-4 plus				
In sunshine homes	—	—	—	—
In other residential homes	—	—	—	—
At home	3	1	4	.7
Children 5-15 plus				
<i>Educable</i>				
In special schools	4	3	7	1.3
Other schools	—	—	—	—
Not at school	—	1	1	.2
<i>Ineducable</i>				
In mental hospitals	—	—	—	—
In mental deficiency institutions	—	—	—	—
At home	1	—	1	.2
Employed				
In workshops for the blind	10	—	10	1.8
Home workers	18	4	22	4.0
All others	18	3	21	3.8
Unemployed				
Training for open employment	—	1	1	.2
Training for sheltered employment	2	2	4	.7
Trained for open employment	—	—	—	—
Trained for sheltered employment	—	—	—	—
Not trained for open employment	8	2	10	1.8
Not trained for sheltered employment	—	—	—	—
Not available for employment	9	40	49	9.0
Not capable for employment:— 16-59	17	20	37	6.8
60-64	13	5	18	3.3
65 & over	124	197	321	58.6
Residential Accommodation				
Homes for the blind	7	10	17	3.1
Other homes	5	7	12	2.2
Mental hospitals	1	2	3	.5
Mental deficiency institutions	1	2	3	.5
Chronic wards of hospitals	4	3	7	1.3
TOTALS	245	303	548	100

Register of Partially Sighted persons at 31st March, 1954

<i>Classification</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
A. Prospective blind Persons (other than children) who are near blind and likely to become blind and to need the full range of blind welfare services			
1. Employed	—	—	—
2. Undergoing training	—	—	—
3. Unemployed but available for and capable of training or work	—	—	—
4. Incapable of or not available for work	11	17	28
B. Industrially handicapped Persons (other than children) whose principal needs are likely to be met by proper placement in industry			
1. Employed	6	—	6
2. Undergoing training	—	—	—
3. Unemployed but available for and capable of training or work	3	1	4
4. Incapable of or not available for work	1	—	1
C. Requiring observation Persons (other than children) whose defect is neither industrially nor socially a serious handicap and whose vision may or may not deteriorate	4	9	13
D. Children 5-15 plus			
1. Attending special schools	9	1	10
2. Attending other schools	4	1	5
3. Educable but not at school	1	1	2
4. Ineducable	1	—	1
E. Children 1-4 plus	2	—	2
	42	30	72

Other classes of handicapped persons

While under the National Assistance Act it is obligatory on local health authorities to operate schemes for the welfare of blind persons, provision for other classes of handicapped persons is entirely at the discretion of the Authority.

The County Council has had the need of handicapped persons generally under consideration for some time. Information as to the scope of the problem is however still very incomplete, apart from that relating to the deaf, who are catered for by the Local Diocesan Association. The number of handicapped persons resident in the County other than blind and deaf and excluding children who are known to the authority is 304. Twenty per cent of these are in full or part-time work. Ten per cent are unemployed but trainable. The remainder are not in need of any assistance or are so severely handicapped that the question of training or employment does not arise. It has been estimated that the number of handicapped persons in the County who are unemployed but trainable is probably in the region of 250.

Persons handicapped and in need of the help envisaged in the National Assistance Act are referred from time to time to the County Council by officers of the National Assistance Board and Ministry of Labour as well as by General Medical Practitioners and others but in the absence of an approved scheme for dealing with them no action is possible.

NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS ACT REGULATION 1948

There is one nursery in the County registered under this Act. It is run by a Voluntary Committee at Skegness and is open only during the holiday season. It provides places for 25 children. It is subsidised by a small annual grant from the County Council.

Three daily minders were registered during the year. They are the first since the Act came into operation.

REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES—PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936

One additional home was registered in 1954 bringing the number on the register at the end of the year to three. Together they provide beds for 55 general cases. They have been inspected regularly during the year and found to be generally satisfactory.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE STAFF OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

The number of candidates examined by the Council's Medical Officers was 570 compared with 309 in the previous year. In addition arrangements were made for 36 examinations to be carried out by other Authorities or by general medical practitioners. The Council's Officers undertook the examination of 13 candidates for other Local Authorities.

